BEIRUT (AP) - President Elias Hrawi and Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri on Tuesday discussed the Middle East peace process with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad during a snap meeting at Mr. Assad hometown in northwest Syria. Mr. Assad, who was receiving condolences for the death of the eldest son in his hometown of Kordahah, broke from the mourners to hold private talks with the Lebanese leaders, Beirut's state run radio reported. The three leaders; were joined by Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam. The talks lasted for 90 minutes after which Mr. Hrawi and Mr. Berri returned to Beirut, the radio said. The leadership discussed "the situation in the region and the peace talks," the radio said. No further details were given.

Volume 18 Number 5522

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1994, SHA'BAN 14, 1414

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TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin left for Strasbourg on Tuesday to address the Council of Europe on the Middle East peace process, officials said here. Mr. Rabin, accompanied by his diplomatic adviser Jacques Neria, was due to return to Israel late Wednesday, the sources said.

Hizbollah leader yows attacks

BEIRUT (AP) --- A Hizbollah leader vowed to keep fighting Israel even if a peace treaty is signed and threatened renewed artacks against American targets, a newspaper reported Tuesday. Sheikh Sobhi Tufaili, who headed the Iranian-backed Hizbollah from 1989 to 1991 and currently leads the movement's most radical faction. told the independent Al Hayar daily his goal was to recover all Arab lands lost to Israel and not only a strip it occupies in South Lebanon. "We should continue resisting our (Israeli) enemy despite the objection of the Lebanese government, even if the whole world went along with the peace process," he was quoted as saying.

Iran says Swiss have lax security

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran accused Switzerland Tuesday of lax security at Iranian diplomatic missions on its soil following a stone-throwing attack on the Iranian embassy in Bern, Iranian media reported. Swiss Ambassador Rudolf Weiersmuller was summoned to the Iranian Foreign Ministry to hear a protest over the Monday attack, Tehran Radio said. tran's state-run Islamic Repubfic News Agency said Mr. Weiersmuller "heplored the ficident and promised an investigation." Swiss police detained two Iranians Monday in connection with the incident, which shattered four embassy windows. No injuries were renorted: The men were released later in the day after they confessed to throwing the rocks. Police refused to iden-

'Psychic' believes he stopped Big Ben

TEL AVIV (AP) — A self-proclaimed Israeli psychic claims he accidently silenced the chimes of Big Ben in Britain earlier this week. Uri Gellèr, an Israeli who claims to bend spoons, stop clocks and read minds, told journalists that he jokingly said Sunday evening that he would like to stop the clock that sits atop the houses of parliament in London. "I woke up the next morning and was amazed to ear that indeed it stopped at 6:20 p.m.," Mr. Geller said. "I believe that I caused that. The miraculous act coincided with the filming of a scene in a movie about Mr. Geller's life by British director Ken Russell. The scene involved the actor playing Geller standing in front of a large clock whose bands were spinning out of control. A spokeswoman at the Palace of Westminster said Sunday that the clock stopped at 6:20 p.m. (1820 GMT) and was started again by clockmakcrs at 9:30 p.m. (2130 GMT). Officials said then that they did not know what caused the

Klestil separates from his wife

clock to stop.

VIENNA (AFP) — Austrian President Thomas Klestil. whose affair with a close aide set off a major political and media debate here, announced Tuesday that he was permanently separating from his wife. "President Thomas Klestil, 61, attempted during a meeting with his wife and (three) children to clarify the situation, but to his great disappointment, he reached the conclusion that he should permanently separate from his wife and carry out his official obligations alone," an official communique said. It added that Mr. Klestil's alleged lover. Margot Loeffler, 39, had requested a transfer overseas as soon as possible. The communique said Mr. Klestil was sorry about Ms. Loeffler's decision and hopes she would continue at her post until a replacement can be found.

Jordan wants quick moves, but not at expense of comprehensive peace

King addresses U.S. Jewish leaders in Washington

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein has said he wants to "move and move rapidly" towards peace with Israel, but without abandoning the commitment to a settlement that involves the other Arab parties to the negotiations.

In a meeting in the United States with American Jewish leaders on Monday, King Hussein said that Jordan is "moving on our own to deal with all the problems we have to deal

The leaders of Arab and Israeli negotiating teams, meanwhile, met Tuesday at undisclosed locations, part of a new format designed to create a more relaxed atmosphere outside the glare of publicity (see story below).

Israeli negotiators met separately with their counterparts from Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the Palestine Organisation (PLO).

When Israeli negotiator Elyakim Rubinstein arrived in Washington on Monday he brought along experts on water, energy, business and the environment. Mr. Rubinstein was meeting with Jordanian Ambassador Fayez Tarawneh. Israeli Ambassador Itamar Rabinovich and Syrian nego-tiator Muwaffaq Al Allaf, who met for 90 minutes on Monday, resumed their discussions. The Israeli said their first session was "a good meeting in a

positive atmosphere." Saying that he hoped to see similar determination in the other negotiating tracks, King Hussein added that his commitment to a comprehensive peace in the region "does not mean that we should wait until everybody else deals with their

problems." "We are not tying ourselves down to anything except the determination to move and move rapidly," he said.

A Jordanian government official said the King's statement did not represent any backing away from the Kingdom's commitment not to move ahead with a peace treaty ahead of the Palestinians, Lebanon and Syria. "We are determined to do what we can," said King Hus-sein. "But we believe that in the interest of old and future generations in the region, in the interest of the security of all the coming generations, we have to work for comprehen-

sive peace." Participants in the meeting with King Hussein included the American Jewish Committee, B'nai B'rith, the National Council of Jewish Women, the Jewish Theological Seminary and the American Jewish Con-

Asked about the Arab boycott of Israel, King Hussein said that the aspect of the boycott in which Arab countries refuse to do business with companies that also do business with Israel "is probably on the way toward being re-

At the same time he called for an end to Israeli restrictions on imports into the West Bank of products from Jordan. Mr. Rubinstein meanwhile

welcomed King Hussein's com-ment that a peace treaty would

be the "crowning achievement" of the peace process. "I hope this statement will result in progress at the nego-tiations," Mr. Rubinstein told

Israeli radio from Washignton. "Every positive proposal from the King is an encourag-ing sign for the negotiations." he added.

In an earlier meeting with Arab ambassadors to the U.S., King Hussein stressed the need for solidarity among Arab countries and collective Arab action at a time when the na-tion was facing "fateful chal-

lenges."
He also called on Arab Americans to coordinate their efforts and potentials in order to 'play an influential role in the United States and world public opinion.

"We started to address many elements to see what progress we can make," the King said. "As far as a peace treaty is concerned we feel that it comes at the end which is the crowning achievement of resolving

(Continued on page 5)

Self-rule talks resume | Nothing less than full unexpectedly in Cairo | Golan pullout – Allaf

CAIRO (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat said an Israeli delegation was arriving in Cairo on Tuesday night to resume talks on imple-inentation of Palestinian selfrule in areas of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The move was unexpected since Israeli and Palestinian officials said Monday that negotiations would be suspended until after a secondmeeting expected this weekend between Mr. Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon

The early resumption of talks suggested new proposals could be under study to implement the accord signed by the two sides last September calling for Israel's withdrawal from Gaza and the West Bank

town of Jericho. An Israeli withdrawal was due to take place Dec. 13 under the accord. However, differences over control of crossing points and how much land Israel will cede around Jericho have delayed the

Mr. Arafat, speaking to reporters after a two-hour meeting with Foreign Minister Amr Musa, did not give the names of the Israeli delegates. But he said they had accompanied Mr. Peres in his meeting with the PLO chief in Oslo, Norway, last week.

When and where the Israeli and PLO delegates will meet also was not disclosed. The two sides have sought to avoid reporters during their past talks

In Israel, officials at Ben Gurion airport said a special flight with an Israel delegation left for Cairo. The delegation was believed to include Yoel Zinger, a legal adviser to the foreign ministry who is playing a key role in drafting a withdrawal agreement with the

Mr. Arafat praised Egypt's effort in solving differences be-tween Israel and the PLO, the latest being a visit by Mr. Musa to Israel on Monday in which he reportedly carried Palestinian suggestions to overcome the deadlock in the talks.

Egypt's Middle East Agency quoted Mr. Arafat as also saying that Mr. Musa brought important results from Israel and that the talks in Cairo could continue until Friday. Mr. Musa told reporters that

he will take part in the meeting between Mr. Peres and Mr. Arafat, planned next Saturday in Davos, Switzerland. He added that during his meeting with Mr. Arafat, the PLO leader had a telephone conversation with Egyptian

(Continued on page 5)

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syria will settle for nothing less than a total Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, its chief negotiator at Middle East peace talks said Tuesday.

Muwaffiq Al Allaf, quoted by the official his country.

SANA, said his country "rejects any proposals that do not provide for its recovery of all of the Golan."

He reaffirmed to his Israeli counterpart Itamar Rabinovich "the principles of the Syrian stand as expressed by President Hafez Al Assad" at his summit on Jan. 16 with U.S. President Bill Clinton.

At the Geneva summit, Mr. Assad said for the first time that he would consider "normal peaceful relations" with Israel, as part of a comprehensive settlement in the Middle

In Washington, bilateral peace talks between Israel and its Arab neighbours continued Tuesday, as negotiators met in secret locations in hopes that removing them from the public eye will make room for more

Israeli negotiators met Tuesday with representatives of Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and the Palestinians, according to a source close to the talks. Discussions resumed Mon-

President Hosni Mubarak. He day after a four-month break did not say whether the two following the signing of a peace accord between Israel and the Palestine Liberation (PLO) in September.

has been limited to delegation heads, sometimes accompanied by experts.

Rubinstein met Monday with Jordanian Ambassador Fayez Tarawaneh to discuss water, evnironmental and energy, they were accompanied only by experts on these issues.

phere. Israeli-Syrian talks have been deadlocked for months with Israel demanding that Damascus detail its ideas for peace before it withdraws its troops from the Golan Heights, and Damascus insisting on a full withdrawal by

Mr. Rabinovich opened the

(Continued on page 8)

The 11 previous rounds of discussions were held at the that laws governing the import and distribution of food and State department, with negotiators sometimes issuing daily medicine were violated have to statements on what had be seen as part of an ongoing occurred. This new round of bilaterals

For example, when Israeli delegation head Elyakim

In discussions with Syria. which had been expected to be the next breakthrough after the dramatic agreement reached with the Palestinians last year, Mr. Rabinovich told Israeli radio after 90 minutes of talks with Mr. Allaf only that the meeting was held "in a positive and serious atmos-

Jordan, Iraq to study pipeline to Aqaba

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan and Iraq have agreed to study possibilities of building an oil pipe-line to link Iraq with the port of Agaba after international sanctions on Iraq are lifted, an official statement said

Tuesday. The statement, issued by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Walid Asfour to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the agreement to conduct a feasibility study for the project was part of an accord Mr. Asfour and his Iraqi counterpart Safa Hadi Jawad signed in Baghdad earlier this week.

The statement did not give details of the project except that the agreement also in-cluded building a refinery at Agaba based on studies on Jordan's consumption beyond the year 2010. In the meantime, Íraqi-supplied oil in excess of Jordanian con-

sumption would be exported. Petra quoted Dr. Asfour as saying that the project aimed at securing Iraqi oil supplies in a "quicker and safer manner once the sanctions are

The findings of the feasibility study will be submitted to the government of the two countries for approval, he

During his visit to Bagh-dad, Dr. Asfour also held talks with other senior Iraqi officials and attended a meeting with the energy ministers of Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Turkey on linking the power grids of the five countries in a regional network.

The agreement signed in Baghdad by Dr. Asfour and Mr. Jawad also renewed an arrangement under which Jordan will buy four million tonnes of crude and fuel oil from Iraq during the year

This would roughly mean a daily supply of 50,000 barrels of crude oil and 25,000 barrels of fuel oil — Jordan's full needs of imported energy.

According to industry sources, part of the oil will be supplied free of cost and the rest at market prices.

The Iraqi oil supply to Jor-

dan is exempt from the

sweeping international sanc-

tions imposed against Iraq following its August 1990 in-vasion of Kuwait. Dr. Asfour also discussed

with the Iraqı officials possibilities of exchange of expertise in oil and mineral exploration in cooperation with Jordan's natural resources authority and conducting studies on the Al Risheh gas fields near the Jordanian-Iraqi border.

The Aqaba pipeline project appears to be a dustedoff version of a plan Jordan and Iraq abandoned in the mid-80s after Israel refused to provide an international undertaking not to attack the

The Israeli refusal, which was demanded by both Jordan and Iraq, prompted the U.S. Eximbank to refuse a \$550 million loan for the project, which at that time was estimated to cost \$1 billion.

The project was considered at the height of Iraqi oil exports through Aqaba when part of the Iraqi oil exporting facilities were crippled during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war. It envisaged laying a 1,000-

kilometre long pipeline of 75-

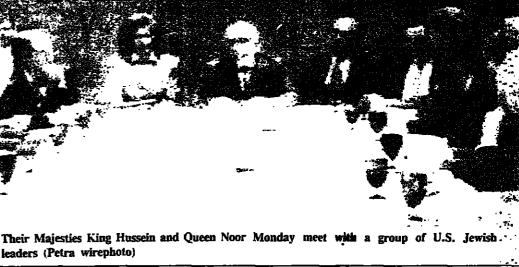
centimetre diameter from the H-3 pumping station in Iraqi territory near the border and down south through the desert to Agaba.

The H-3 station was part of a pre-1948 pipeline that pumped Iraqi oil across Jordan to the Mediterranean port of Haifa in British Pales-

According to industry sources, the Iraqi part of the pipeline remains largely intact. Parts of the line in Jordanian territory near Mafraq have been destroyed.

Another project under consideration in the late 80s was taping an Iraqi pipeline with the Saudi oil port of Yanbu at midway and building a link with Aqaba. This project envisaged the linkage in Saudi territory near the border with Jordan in the south and would have substantially reduced the cost when compared with the ear-

lier proposal. Officials said the project. which at one point appeared to have been all but finalised. was no longer under consid-



Government committees to probe food, medicine situation

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government on Tuesday announced the formation of two ministerial committees to investigate the situation of food and medicine in the country and reaffirmed that the executive authority was committed to taking whatever

meassures were necessary to rectify the situation.

The Jordan News Agency. Petra, quoted Acting Prime Minister Ma'n Abu Nowar as saying at a Cabinet session that ensuring the safety of food and medicine and "preventing manipulation or neglect is a basic concern of the government, which will not tolerate

any violations by anyone."
Recent comments by Health
Minister Abdul Rahim Malhas government effort to ensure "the maximum degree of health and guarantees" of safety to the

Nowar said. Dr. Abu Nowar, in comments carried by Petra, said the Cabinet had set up two committees: The first, headed by Minister of Supply Radi Ibrahim, will review issued re-

lated to food such as proce-

dures of imports, transportation, storing, distribution and The second panel, headed

by Dr. Malhas, will review the process of importing medicine, transportation, storing, distribution and constant moni-Both committees will pre-sent their findings to the full

During Tuesday's session,

on the medicine and food situation in the country.

Dr. Abu Nowar said the government was maintaining a close watch over the situation,

but that there were some

ing in the areas of health, food and medicine, it will not keep silent or show leniency towards any shortcomings, deficiency or exploitation or any tamper ing with the safety of food and medicine," Dr. Abu Nowar warned.

33 deputies to debate the food

Six political parties on Tues-

day issued a statement deman-

ding immediate investigations

into "cases of corruption" and

"punishment for those who are

found guilty of abusing their

positions to violate the regula-

tions on food and medicine in

and medicine situation.

The Lower House of Parliament, prompted by the comments of Dr. Malhas, made in an interview with an Arabiclanguage weekly, is meeting today to consider a request by

the Cabinet heard reports from Dr. Malhas and Mr. Ibrahim

loopholes resulting from overlapping of functions which were being exploited by some groups with vested interest groups.
"The government is keen on safeguarding the health of its

people and preventing the imports of food and drugs which or international specifications," Dr. Abu Nowar said. "While the government appreciates the keenness of

some merchants to safeguard

the interests of the country and

people and (the work) of a great majority of those work-

Jordan. The parties called for a public rally to be held in front of the Parliament House today to register the citizens' protest and demand punishment for

cine regulations. Specifically referring to the comments made by the health minister, the six leftist parties demanded that the prosecutor general undertake an inves-

(Continued on page 5)

Violations not new, date back to years — sources

By Ayman Al Safadi

Jordan Times Staff Reporter AMMAN - The Ministry of Health in 1989 authorised the sale of at least 70 food items without testing them for safety despite the objection of the then director of the central laboratories department at the ministry, according to informed sources and official documents made available to the Jordan Times.

The sale of the food items, which included milk, meat, coffee and cheese, were authorised by a senior laboratory official in March 1989 after the then undersecretary of the ministry of health put the laboratories director on an administrative leave "in order to facilitate work at the laboratories," the documents re-

The minister of health was outside the country at the time and the under-secretary asked the director to resume her duties one day before the minister came back, according to the documents.

A few weeks before the food items were authorised, the director of the food laboratories had sent the minister of health an "urgent" letter informing him that many of the

De Lapresle to replace Cot

PARIS (R) - France has proposed General Bertrand de Lapresle, commander of its rapid intervention force, to take over as commander of U.N. peacekeeping forces in former Yugoslavia. Defence Minister François Leotard said Tuesday. He told television he wanted Mr. de Lapresie to replace French General Jean

food samples submitted to the laboratories were not being tested in accordance with health regulations, the documents reveal.

The former director, who was later transferred to the pharmacy and drug control department, told the minister that she would not sign any reports certifying that food items are fit for human consumption unless proper tests had been conducted on them, according to the documents.

In the letter, dated March

13, 1989, the director told the minister that microbial contamination tests were not being conducted on all food samples presented to the laboratories for testing, but reports certify-ing that they were free from microbes were being issued. according to the documents. The documents reveal that

the director had told the minister all samples submitted for testing were "handled on the same day and this is an illegal and unscientific practice."

In a second letter to the

minister dated March 15, 1989, the director of the laboratories cited specific incidents as evidence that the proper tests on food samples were not being conducted, according to the documents.

"(This is an issue) that per-tains to the direct health of the citizen, and I will not sign any (authorisation) reports after my investigation proved that tests were not conducted on (the concerned food items), the director told the minister,

according to the documents. Sources and documents confirm that the then minister of health commissioned a committee to "study the situation." at the laboratories and a numiber of its staff were subset quently transferred.

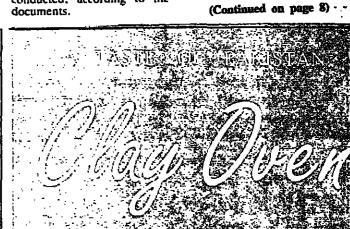
According to the documents and sources, the staff members transferred because they were not doing their job properly. New employees were hired by the laboratory after they received training at the Jordan University of Science and Technology, according to the sources and the documents.

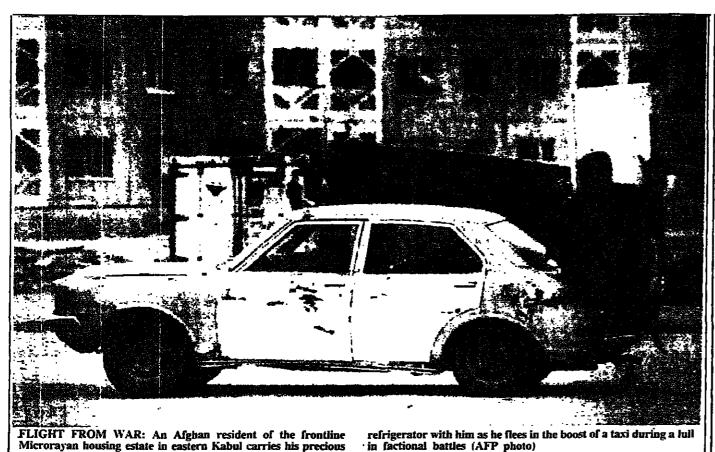
director of the laboratories sent the minister a letter in which she gave a thorough assessment of the situation The documents reveal that she told him sanitary condi-

tions at the laboratories did not

In December 1989, the

meet the required standards and the laboratory was not





Weizman offers rare praise for Assad

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli President Ezer Weizman says he believes Syrian President Hafez Al Assad has decided to make peace with Israel after decades of war.

But in remarks broadcast by Israel Radio from Ankara on Tuesday, Mr. Weizman urged Mr. Assad to meet Israeli leaders to try to better understand Israeli hopes and expectations.

Israeli-Syrian peace talks resumed in Washington on Monday after a four-month suspension. An Israeli official said they took place in a "good and positive atmosphere.

Mr. Weizman, on the first official visit to Turkey by an Israeli president, spoke at a dinner on Monday hosted by President Suleyman Demirel He offered rare public prase for Mr.

Assad from a top Israeli and sent the Syrian leader condolences on the death of his son Basel Assad in a car crash on Friday. "I believe President Assad

when he says that he has made a strategic decision for peace. I believe his sincerity and integrity," said Mr. Weizman, a former combat pilot who while in government helped forge Israel's landmark peace treaty with Egypt in 1979.

"He is a man of honour but he has to understand that in peace, like in war, one has to recognise the mentality of 69-year-old president whose present job is largely ceremo-

TEHRAN (AFP) — Satellite

dishes, long regarded with

suspicion in Iran as instru-

ments for spreading undesir-

able western culture, have

mushroomed on rooftops in

to the reception of Western

broadcasts and repeated warn-

ings from the authorities about

new technology is making in-

Possession of satellite dis-

hes, which can receive televi-

sion broadcasts from Europe,

the United States and Asia, is

officially forbidden in Iran,

which has sought to wipe out

all traces of Western culture

since the 1979 Islamic revolu-

However, a lucrative under-

ground trade in satellite equip-

ment has been flourishing for

two years, as many middle-

class Tehranis seek an alterna-

tive to the strict, puritanical

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roads on Iranian society.

"cultural onslaught," the

After a decade of resistance

the Iranian capital.

Mr. Assad demands the return of all of the Golan Heights seized by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war. Israel is ready to cede some land but won't discuss how much until Syria commits to what Israel

In Geneva last week, Mr. Assad said there could be "normal peaceful relations." But Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin faulted him for not specifically embracing diplomatic relations, open borders and trade

"It seems to me that in Geneva he (Assad) failed to understand the expectations of public opinion in Israel," Mr. Weizman said.

"I do hope that in the near future he will make a bold decision and meet Israelis, meet the prime minister, meet the foreign minister, talk to them, understand them and know the spirit of the coun-

Mr. Rabin said Sunday he was ready to negotiate peace with Mr. Assad anywhere on earth and without prior condi-

We in our area know the grief and sorrow of burying our children, of burying our sons. I take this opportunity, Mr. President, to send by condolences to President Assad for the loss of his son," Mr. Weiz-

Mr. Rabin said Monday that Israel and Syria had retained

programmes offered by local

Taking advantage of the au-

thorities' apparent tolerance,

thousands of families here

have opted to spend an esti-

mated \$1,000 on a dish and

receiver which enable them to

"see what goes on in the

world," in the words of one

Several private companies

have started manufacturing

dishes and other simple satel-

lite parts, while the receivers

are imported clandestinely

from Gulf Arab states and

Faced with the growing

popularity of satellite equip-

ment, the authorities have

been forced to take steps to

satisfy the population's enter-

tainment needs, albeit within

the framework of Islamic

The Ministry of Culture and

Islamic Guidance is planning

to set up a centre for the

television stations.

technician.

Turkey.

the military option despite resuming peace talks in Washing-

"From a military viewpoint Syria has the option of war, but not from a political viewpoint. In our military deployments Syria remains the number one target," Mr. Rabin told the foreign affairs and defence committee of the Israeli Knesset (parliament), according to

the peace process will necessarily lead to war with Syria, but on the other hand I cannot say categorically that there won't be a war with Syria."

Mr. Rabin said he had "no doubt" that this year "the future of talks with Syria, and perhaps with other Arab parties will be settled once and for

"In present circumstances peace must be given a chance," he added.

An Israeli military intelliwith the United States, Israel

to get out of the "cycle of war"

It also said Israel last year achieved strategic superiority

BERLIN (AP) — A former ing a Syrian diplomatic passport and carrying explosives in Syrian diplomatic baggage. East German espionage agent broke his silence Monday on East German police confisthe bombing of a French cultucated the explosives when Mr. ral centre and gave testimony linking Syria and the interna-Weinrich arrived on March 31. tional gunman "Carlos" to the 1983, but did not arrest him

East German agent links

Syria to Berlin bombing

because they were uncertain

how Syria would react and

because they feared retribution

from Carlos' Group, Mr. Voigt

returned to Mr. Weinrich only

after several meetings during

which he promised to store

them in the Syrian embassy in

East Berlin and not to use

them against a third country in East Germany. Mr. Voigt said a superior had told him to give

Mr. Weinrich the explosives. Though Carlos is believed to

have carried out other bombings against France in 1983 to

force the French to release

jailed comrades, Mr. Weinrich

told the East Germans Carlos

had no plans against France

and intended to concentrate on

the Palestine conflict, Mr.

He said Syria gave thorough support to the Carlos group,

and Mr. Weinrich received a

new Syrian diplomatic passport

as well-as faise West German

Mr. Voigt's trial is expected

receive 15 years imprisonment

if convicted for accessory to

murder. Prosecutors say the

man who placed the bomb at

the French cultural centre is

dead, a victim of civil war in

Mr. Voigt led the Stasi's "terrorism" section from 1980 until 1989, when East Ger-

many collapsed. Prosecutors

say his operation supplied and

trained "terrorists" active in

the West, from the German

leftist Red Army faction to the

Japanese Red Army and Mid-

dle Eastern grops. German courts have sent to prison

numerous Red Army Faction

members whose false identities

in east Germany were unco-

vered after the communist reg-

Voigt testified.

He said the explosives were

Though East Germany's ties to attacks in western Europe and to global extremist groups have long been documented, Helmut Voigt is the first East German agent to testify on how it was done.

1983 attack.

When Mr. Voigt went on trial Jan. 12 on a charge of accessory to murder, he denied that he had handed over the 24 kilogrammes of explosives that prosecutors say were used in the bombing that killed one man and injured 23 others.

But on Monday he gave a detailed statement to the Berlin district court, admitting that he had arranged to transfer the explosives to Johannes Weinrich, a West German accomplice of the Venezuelan Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, known as

Prosecutors say the explosives were used in the bombing of the Maison de France cultural centre on fashionable Kurfuerstendamm Avenue in West

Berlin on Aug. 25, 1983. Mr. Voigt. 51, said he was to last until March. He could not certain the explosives were used in the attack.

Mr. Voigt was at the time head of the section that trained and harboured agents for East German's ministry of state security, known as the Stasi. He was arrested in 1992 in Greece, where he was

living under a false identity, and extradited to Germany last

He told the court that Mr. Weinrich and others responsi-ble for the Maison de France bombing were under cover now in Syria, and that German authorities had not made serious efforts to bring them to Germany for trial.

Mr. Voigt said Hungary's secret service tipped East Germany that Mr. Weinrich was travelling to East Berlin, bear-

Peace now or hardline

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rabin meets noisy opposition in youth rally

TEL AVIV (AFP) — A right-wing demonstrator threw a coat at Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and accused the premier — who was unharmed — of being a "traitor" during a premier — who was annual late Monday, police said. The young man was held for questioning after the incident during a meeting organised by the religious youth movement Helitzin in Jerusalem. Dozens of young demonstrators had hassled Mr. Rabin from the moment he arrived for the meeting shouting "traitor" and "we shall never move from the Golan (Heights)." Despite the intervention of Mayor Ehud Olmer (Heights). Despite the intervention of hardy Later Comers the Israeli premier was then interrupted several times during his speech from the opposition Likud group, who appealed in nis speech from the opposition black group, was appeared invain several times for calm, police said. There have been frequent right-wing demonstrations against Rabin since he shock the hand of Yasser Arafat in Washington on Sept. 13 after the signing of an accord on limited Palestinian self-rule in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho. The demonstrations have also denounced recent moves by the Israeli government accepting the principle of making territorial concessions in the Golan Heights to the

Rebels kidnap mayor in southeast Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Rebel Kurds killed three people and kidnapped seven, including a local mayor, when they ambushed two minibuses in Turkey's troubled southeast on Monday, Anatolia news agency reported. Turkish government troops killed two Kurdish militants in separate clashes in the region, the agency added. Willitants of the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) abducted Karakoyuniu Mayor Ramazan Hoshaber, his driver and five unidentified people at a roadblock 10 kilometres from the town centre in Igdir province, Anatolia said. Earlier a guard and two women were killed and seven passengers were injured when PKK guerrillas raked the minibuses with rifle fire at another read-block. One of the guerrillas was shot dead by armed guards on the bus, the agency added. The agency said security forces killed one more PKK militant in a clash in diyarbakir province. Over 10,000 people have died since the separatist PKK began its fight for an independent state in 1984.

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PONS RSS

Porters

N. Korea, Iran sign visa waiver for diplomats

TOKYO (AFP) - North Korea and Iran have agreed to waive visa requirements for diplomats visiting each other's country, the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) said Tuesday. The agreement was signed in Pyongyang Monday in a ceremony attended by North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Jo Kyu-Il and his Iranian counterpart, Manoushehr Mottaki, according to the official news agency monitored here. Iran maintains diplomatic ties with the two Koreas but in recent years has expanded military cooperation with the hardline Pyongyang has supplied Scud-type rockets to Tehran. Iran and North Korea signed a protocol on military cooperation in November 1990. state in the north. According to U.S. intelligence reports,

Ghali recommends extending UNIFIL mandate

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) - The U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) should stay another six months at the request of the Lebanese government, the U.N. secretary general said in a report released Monday. The troops mandate should be extended until July 31, Secretary General Boutros Ghali said. The U.N. Security Council is to consider the issue this week. Western diplomats said. U.N. troops have, the issue this week. Western diplomats said. U.N. troops have, then stationed in Lebanon since 1978. There are currently some 5,200 members in the force, which was due to leave at the end of the month. Dr. Ghali said he hoped the force could be reduced by July, providing there is progress in the Middle East peace process.

Ship caught with rocket fuel for Iraq

BONN (R) — A chemical used in missile fuel has been intercepted on its way to Iraq in defiance of United Nations sanctions, the German government said. Intelligence tip-offs led German and Saudi inspectors to the consignment on boardthe German-registered freighter "Asian Senator", docked in Jeddah on its way from Hong Kong to Beirut, a government spokesman Dieter Vogel told reporters. "We have been told by experts that chemical was destined for Iraq via Beirut," he said. "There were clear indications that the substance was appropriate for and destined to be used for such purposes (as rocket fuel) in Iraq." The chemical, ammonium perchlorate, was in over 100 barrels and came from the Chinese port of Hung Fu, although it was not known where it was manufactured. Accompanying documents listed it as a different, harmless substance. It was confiscated after the search on Dec. 28. Mr. Vogel said there were no plans to take legal action against the shipper since the government believed it was a reputable firm and had been duped. He said China had also denied any knowledge of the shipment but had agreed to take: the consignment back. Iraq has been subject to U.N. economic sanctions since invading Kuwait in August 1990. Their removal is tied to a number of conditions including the recognition of Kuwait and agreement to U.N. monitoring to ensure Iraq has renounced weapons of mass destruction.

Police round up gileged PKK collectors

MARSEILLE (AFP) - Ten alleged supporters of the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) were arrested here on Tuesday on suspicion of extorting funds for the separatist organisation, which is banned in Turkey. Police, including officers from an anti-terrorist unit, carried out the sweep following the arrest of the presumed head of the network on Monday. Police, who searched the homes of the ten, said the PKK contributors were "not always voluntary, violence was often used to get the money.

calls "full peace."

"I don't think disruption of

ence report presented to the cabinet Sunday said Syria had for now given up its military option against Israel, instead focusing on rapprochement Television said.

The report said Syria wanted

whose army is equipped mainly with outdated arms

reception and reproduction of

to address the needs of youngs-

ters and to counter western

Several large dishes have been installed on the roof of a

modern four-storey building in

Tehran, where a team of spe-

cialists vet and select program-

mes transmitted via satellite.

movies and other broadcasts

deemed to be "healthy" are to

be put on video and shown to

the public through 4,000 video

clubs established throughout

the country, according to

The decision marks a shift

away from the hardline tactics

previously employed to pre-

vent video distribution, and

the adoption of a more educa-

tional approach to thwart the

allegedly "harmful" effects of

Iran's state television recent-

ly added a third channel to

foreign productions.

Some 12 million copies of

'benign" foreign programmes,

Satellite television boom sweeps Tehran

influences.

newspapers.

ter Yossi Sarid said earlier he expected Israel to sign peace agreements this year with all its

Israeli Environment Minis-Arab neighbours, adding that his forecast was based on reports from the intelligence ser-On Sunday Mr. Rabin ruled

out organising a referendum on the Golan Heights until a peace accord was reached with

In his Ankara comments, Mr. Weizman said cooperation of Israel and Turkey was vital for the Middle East, and the two countries — together with Egypt — could revitalise the

"In peace time, Turkey can be a bridge between Africa, the Middle East," Asia and "The establishment of a true

peace in the Middle East, the end of conflicts, normal relations between the countries with open borders, free movement of people and trade, joint investments, Syrian planes ferrying tourists to the Ben Gurion airport, and the (Israeli airline) El Al planes similarly flying to Damascus are no longer distant dreams," the Israeli president said.

Mr. Demirel also hailed the rogress recorded so far in the Middle East peace process. which he said was encouraging Turkey to carry its efforts for regional economic coopera-

meet the increasing demand

for variety and lively entertain-

But Iranian Television is still

bound by tight restrictions and

its channels are dominated by

sports, religious programmes,

science documentaries and

family films with high moral

new video clubs will increase

choice and serve as a more

logical and effective weapon in

the fight against Western cul-

adapted for cultural assaults,

said a culture ministry official

this week. "We will have to

'We will not be able to

keep up if we want to survive.

overcome cultural abnormali-

ties in our society through

force alone," said Reza Tagha-

vi, head of parliament's cultu-

ral subcommittee. "We need

to meet the legitimate needs of

our public by producing attrac-

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

"Technology is now being

The authorities hope the

overtones.

WASHINGTON (AP) - The time for peace in the Middle East is now — otherwise extremist groups will continue to gain influence, Representative Dan Glickman said Monday after a visit to the region.

will rise -

He is chairman of the Intelli gence Committee in the House of Representatives.

"If it's not done now, in five to 15 years radical Muslim fundamentalists will dominate the Arab World," said Mr. Glick-

man in an interview. "You will be in a perpetual state of terrorism. Mr. Glickman said he is generally satisfied with U.S.

intelligence efforts in the Middie East, with the notable exception of the extremist groups.
"Our biggest flaw is that our

human intelligence hasn't been able to crack some of the more radical elements," he said. "It's hard to get people into those groups. You have to be in 20 years before they trust

Talks on Middle East peace resumed Monday.

Although discussions be-tween Israel and Syria have stalled, Mr. Glickman said his weeklong visit to Israel, Syria, Jordan and Egypt convinced him that all sides are serious about achieving peace. For one thing, the fall of the

Soviet Union has stopped the flow of arms to some Arab countries, leaving the Israeli

The communist help to the Arab World is gone," Mr. Glickman said. "The Syrians known they'll never destroy

Glickman

military much stronger posi-

Israel. It's here, it's a reality." Other Arab countries like Syria also want better relations

with the United States, he said, for economic reasons.

Mr. Glickman credited Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak with being the "driv-

ing, catalytic force" that will bring all sides together. "He's done a lot to give the Israelis confidence that their security isn't being threatened," he said.

Of particular concern to U.S. intelligence is the influence of Islamic groups such as Hizbollah, which Mr. Glickman said would try to derail the talks if possible.

"They're going to do everything they can to disrupt the peace process," he said. "This is a move for raw power in that part of the world. They are having some success."

All sides are looking to the United States to help broker the peace, Mr. Glickman added, but there is no talk of U.S. ground troops. "America is viewed as the

only entity in the world that can have any role in securing and guaranteeing this peace, he said. "We obviously have a great stake in securing the

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 77111-19

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	Le Journal De L'Histoire
19:30	News in Hebrew
	Too Close for Comfort
22.00	News in English
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Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543.

Assemblies of God Church, Tel.

Catholic Church Tel. Armenian 771331. Orthodox Church Tel. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. Amman International Church Tel. Evangelical Lutheran Church Tcl: 824328. 63-5.5.0. German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tcl: 684195 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tcl. 65-932. Church of Nazarene Tcl.675691. The Evangelical Local Church in Annuan

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MOSPITALS

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Zarga National Hospital (09)900560
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Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)990990
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INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Oueen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53201-5, where it

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

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Cold temperatures expected to continue

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Department of Meteorology Monday said the cold front affecting the Kingdom will continue through Wednesday morning bringing heavy rains to some parts of the country. It is expected to taper off Thursday with moderate weather throughout the day and early Friday, according to department director Ali

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Abanda. Friday afternoon and evening will bring colder weather and heavier rains are expected Saturday and Sunday with probable snowfall in the high mountains areas, Dr. Abanda fold the Jordan Times

The rains that fell in the southern regions registered above the annual average rainfall, according to the Ministry of Agriculture. Jamil Jaafreh, director of the Agriculture Department in the southern Jordan Valley said the rains this week benefited vegetable crops particularly tomatoes which are to be exported to other countries.

The rains also helped to eliminate pests such as common flies and those which cause damage to tomatoes and beans, Mr. Jaafreh said.

He called on farmers to spray their crops after temperature rise slightly and the rains Stop.
Mr. Jaafreh said the absence

frost this year helped the crops to grow in abundance. He expected the current agricultural season in the southern Jordan Valley to be one of the best in years.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Jordan to host Euro-Arab seminar

AMMAN (Petra) — Under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, a three-day symposium on Euro-Arab cooperation in the field of energy will be held here on Feb. 6, according to Secretary General of of the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Abdul Wahab Zu'bi, who is also chairman of the organising committee. The symposium is organised by the European Union (EU) in cooperation with the ministry, Higher Council for Science and Technology and the Economic Social Commission of Western Asia (ESCWA). The symposium seeks to bolster scopes of cooperation between the Arab World and the EU in the field of energy. Taking part in the symposium will be several ministers and secretary generals, as well as experts from Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Jordan and the EU. A total of 120 researchers and experts are expected to take part in drafting a future plan of cooperation.

Sports medicine centre approved

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers Tuesday announced its approval of the establishment of an advanced sports medicine centre at the cost of JD 250,000. The centre would deal with sportsmen's injuries, offer advice on the prevention of disabilities resulting from sports activities and injuries and other services. The Cabinet said that the centre would be joint venture to be carried out by the ministries of youth and health.

Gharaibeh, British officials discuss scholarships

AMMAN (Petra) — University of Jordan President Fawzi Gharaibeh Tuesday discussed with a visiting delegation from the British Agency for Overseas Development the question of sending Jordanian students on scholarships to the United Kingdom for post graduate studies. The discussion also covered bilateral cooperation in scientific and academic fields.

IDB grants JD 2.633m in loans

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB) worth JD 2.363 million, to finance industrial projects. The bank said that the loans would finance the purchase of primary products and machinery as well as the construction of factories and the purchase of land for the purpose. The projects included fertilisers, tin containers, textiles, tiles, tissue paper, home appliances, kitchen utensils and garments.

IATA head due

AMMAN (Petra) — The director general of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) is due here Wednesday on two-day visit to Jordan. He will meet with Adli Dajani. secretary general of the Arab Air Carriers Organisation, Ahmad Jweiber, director of the Civil Aviation Authority in Jordan and Mahmoud Balqaz, chief executive officer of Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national air carrier. Discussions will cover world air transport issues.

Conference on environment ends

AMMAN (Petra) - An environmental conference held under the motto "Towards an environmental economy" concluded at Forte Grand Hotel in Amman Tuesday. The conference in which American, German and Jordanian experts participated, discussed, over a two-day period, several issues related to the shift towards an environmental economy. In the first session of the conference Jordan's Maher Abu Taleb presented a working paper entitled "Shifting from industrial economy to environmental economy." Another paper was presented by a member of the European Parliament on "the development of environmentally-safe products in the world." Other papers were presented by Mohammad Shaibar of the Higher Council of Science and Technology on the use of natural resources and recycling the council's Talal Al Akasheh on the protection of natural resources and an American expert on environmental legislations and policies in the U.S. The Royal Scientific Society's (RSS) Rizq Al Taani reviewed in his working paper alternative energy recovered and Suleiman Al Hiward and alternative energy resources and Suleiman Al Hiyard and Suha Al Qusous of the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) dealt with the uses of natural gas to generating electricity.

Exporters group plans seminar

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Exporters Society Wednesday hold a seminar entitled "The Chances of Jordanian Products in the Markets of Kazakhstan Republic." Participants in the seminar will discuss issues pertaining to encouraging Jordanians experts to Kazakhstan, investment policies tariffs and exchange rates in the former Soviet

JTC head, Canadian businessman meet

AMMAN (Petra) — Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) Director General Ahmad Atwan, met here Tuesday with a member of the Canada Arab Business Council who is currently visiting Jordan. Discussion covered cooperation between Canada and Jordan in the field of vocational training, transfer of modern Canadian technology in this regard and despatching of Jordanian on scholarships to Canada.

China trade team to arrive

AMMAN (Petra) - A high-level trade delegation from China is due here on Feb. 2 to open trade talks with officials and businesspersons. During the several-day visit, the Chinese team is expected to discuss prospects of China buying more Jordanian potash and increasing its imports of Jordanian phosphate, said a source at the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of commerce. The talks will also deal with prospects for launching joint ventures and increasing exchanges of visits by businesspersons, according to the source.

Consumer protection group supports Malhas

Establishment of independent regulating body urged

By Ian Ataila Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Mohammad Obeidat, president of the National Consumer Protection Society (NCPS), came out strongly in support of Minister of Health Abdul Rahim Malhas who last week raised public concern over the quality of food and medicines imported into the Kingdom.
"We cannot overempha-

sise the positive results and the debate which the minister's comments have produced, especially as he is the first authority for protecting the health and safety of the Jordanian citizen," Mr. Obeidat said at a press conference Tuesday.

"Despite the obvious up-roar which the statements

have caused, we strongly urge that this issue should not simply pass by us without benefit to the public." Mr. Obeidat called for re-

forming and strengthening existing regulations gov-erning food and medicines in Jordan and additional work to guarantee full availability of medicines to patients at Most importantly, the

NCPS called for the establishment of a fully independent and unified food and drug regulation administration to regulate and perform surveillance and control testing on food and medicines available to the public. "It should be an indepen-

dent department, fully-equipped with its own laboratories and investigative powers, and having its own bodyof law, preferably under the direc-tion of the Prime Ministry or Parliament." Mr. Obeidat

The Jordanian Panel of Supply Policy, in a general announcement of its own, said "there continues to exist the problem of multiple parties being present which are involved in the overall responsibility for supervision and quality control surveillance of food substances, and the consumer is the person who pays the final price for this lack of unity (of food regulation departments in Jordan) and the interference which is present in the carrying out of their responsibili-

Mr. Obeidat said the NCPS was calling for "a spe-cial panel to be set up, as soon as possible, to investigate" Dr. Malhas's allegations. "preferably in the coming days." He added that the NCPS was officially requesting to be a member of the proposed panel.

In response to criticisms that the NCPS itself had been lax in bringing such alleged problems to the attention of the public earlier, Mr. Obeidat replied: "We have never, at any time, hidden from the public any information (regarding such issues) that have come to our atten-

Mr. Obeidat and Abdul Fatah Keilani, the NCPS secretary-treasurer, said that what had hampered the society in the past and continued to do so was that it had no real and effective investigative powers of its own and no laboratories, and in general it had to wait for someone to come forward on their own with a complaint supported by reliable evidence, before conducting any inquiry.

Mr. Obeidat strongly refuted that the NCPS had ever come under any covert or illicit pressure from any party to cancel or conceal a complaint, although "naturally, in the line of performing our duties, we have received harsh words or insults at

A member of the NCPS who spoke to the Jordan Times after the press conference, agreed that the NCPS was desperately lacking authority to conduct its own independent investigations.
"We have no independent

sources and eyes of our own to look for us inside the system," the NCPS member. who preferred anonymity.

He was pessimistic that any effective changes would

"New laws will help to improve the situation, but they are only 10 per cent of the overall problem. Ninety per cent of it is in the inherent system and power struc-ture itself, and that will not be changed easily, what-

"I expect that any bonafide improvements in the system would take 10 to 15 years or more. The fact is that the people who benefit from corruption in this case are stronger than those who are harmed by it."

Jordan copes well with financial burdens — report

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Jordan has managed well in coping with the financial burdens imposed on it as a result of heavy foreign debts and the severe blows its economy suffered as a result of the August 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, a U.N. study re-

The study, prepared by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) as part of an assessment of the U.N. agency's member countries, estimated that the total debt of ESCWA member states stood at around \$180 billion at the end of 1992, up by nearly 15 per cent over

The significant increase is attributed to the rise in borrowing by the (Gulf Cooperation Council - GCC) countries." said a summary of the report, a copy of which was made available to the Jordan

Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait accounted for the bulk of the external debt, it said, noting: "While the external debt does not represent a major financial burden on the GCC countries, as they can drain on their still substantial foreign reserves to service it. the external debt of other ESCWA countries, in contrast, represents a heavy liability. given their limited capacity for repayment and servicing.

ducing Jordan, the report said tht the Kingdom's external debts doubled during the 1986-1992 period, but rescheduling arrangements made between 1989 and 1992, and its ability to reduce the burden by around \$2 billion - by repaying some and cancelling contracted but undisbursed loans - had earned it "an accommodating stance on the part of its credi-

In the case of non-oil pro-

The report noted that Jordan's external debts had dropped to around 150 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) in 1992 compared with

220 per cent in 1991. Following are major ex-cerpts from the report:

In 1992, Jordan completed the rescheduling of its bilateral and multilateral debt (Paris Club), estimated at around \$5.5 billion. The rescheduling arrangements included the extension of debt repayment over periods of between 10 and 30 years, with grace periods of between five and ten years.

The approach of the London Club (commercial debt) was initially in marked contrast to the receptive approach of the Paris Club, owing mainly to the suspension of commercial debt repayments by Jordan in early 1991

However, following the resumption of debt repayments and clearance of debt arrears in late 1991. Jordan was able to conclude arrangements with

the London Club.

The Paris Club rescheduling of Jordan's long-term debt resulted in an improvement in the country's debt service ratio, which dropped from 25.6 per cent in 1990 to 20.9 per cent in 1991. The ratio is estimated to have dropped further to around 16.7 per cent in

In 1991, around 73 per cent of Jordan's external debt was long-term of which 45 per cent were concessional, up by six per cent over the preceding two years, and indicating the significant soft-term nature of Jordan's external debt. Like Egypt, most of Jordan's creditors have been OECD countries and financial markets. Whereas no significant change occurred in Jordan's long-term debt to Arab countries (defined as bilateral and Arab development finance institu-tions debt) since 1983, increasing from \$516 million in 1983 to only \$566 million in 1991,

debt to Central and Eastern European countries increased from \$235 million to \$627 million over the same period.

Of this debt, around \$570 million are owed to the former Soviet Union whose successor. the Russian Federation, agreed in late 1992 that Jordan repay its debt partly in cash and partly in kind.

While the GCC-countries were able to drawn on their foreign reserves and could easily resort to domestic debt instruments to finance the budget deficit, other ESCWA countries, especially Jordan and Yemen, found it increasingly difficult to finance the budget deficits, especially as financial assistance from the GCC-countries ceased due to the position taken by the two countries during the Gulf

risis. While Jordan responded with reforming its taxation system to increase domestic revenues, the Republic of Yemen, lacking in taxation base and instruments, resorted to borrowing from the Central Bank, thus leading to a further rise in the rate of inflation. estimated to have stood at around 35 per cent in 1992.

Most ESCWA-non-GCC countries continued their privatisation efforts. While delays have been experienced in implementing the privatisation programme. Egypt has completed its monetary reform programme as agreed upon with the International Monet-

ary Fund (IMF). Syria introduced an investment promotion law in 1991 to encourage investment activities of the private domestic as well as foreign sector. Iraq issued licences for three private commercial banks and one investment bank and inaugurated a stock market to trade in shares of these banks and other institu-

Women's Club member Amal So'eidan Monday DISCUSSING THE LAW: Seminar participants (left to right) former House Deputy Hosni evening discuss the Passport and Nationality

Shiyyab, Deputy Tonjan Faisal, attorney Munther Hamu and Professional and Business

Law and its effects on women, society and democracy (Photo by Rana Husseini)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- Art exhibition by Syrian artist Yasser Hammoud at Baladna Art Gallery (Wasfi Al Tal Street).
- * Exhibition by Lebanese artist Hussein Madi at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation. Also showing the "permanent" exhibition of 54 Arab contemporary artists. (Tel. 643251/2)
- ☆ Art exhibition by artist Raja' Abn Ghazaleh and Mohammad Al Jalous at the Jordan Writers Association. Art exhibition by artist Makram Khaghandouqah at the
- Spanish Cultural Centre. Art exhibition by artist Omar Al Basoul at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Exhibition on the art of architecture at the French Cultural
- ☆ Art exhibition by several Iraqi and Jordanian artists at Orfali Art Gallery (Tel. 826932).

SPORTS ROUND-UP

★ A one-hour programme featuring a condensation of the most. popular games of the week with play-by-play announcement at the American Centre at 5:00 p.m.

CONCERT Concert at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art at 7:00

DRAMA

The Question" at the Royal Cultural Centre (11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.).

Haya centre children's

to offer more programmes

AMMAN (Petra) - The Haya Arts Centre has prepared a children's cultural educational and artistic programme for the current second school term. according to Nabih Rival, the centre's director. Mr. Riyal said private and public schools would benefit from these programmes which are designed to provide children with skills in sports and sciences and increase their general know-

Excavations in upper Zarqa valley reveal occupation from Bronze Ages

AMMAN (J.T.) — An Italian team of archaeologists led by Gaetano Palumbo of the University of Rome has conducted a project in the upper Zarna valley, near the village of

The project aims at under-standing the relationship between nomads and sedentary people during different periods, from the third millennium B.C. to modern times, according to a Department of Antiquities press release Monday. This is achieved through the identification and study of different types of archaeological sites.

The situation in the upper Zarqa basin is ideal for this kind of research, since little vegetation cover allows good ground visibility as well as from aerial photos.

The concentration of sites in this area is also particularly high, since the presence of permanent sources of water, such as Seil Zarqa and Wadi Dhuleil attracted people as early as during the most ancient periods of human occupation in Jordan.

The excavations conducted by the Italian team at Jebel Reheil, a site dated to 2900-2200 B.C., revealed the presence of complex fortification systems and at least two phases of occupation, one of the Early Bronze III period (2900-2700 B.C. ca.) and the other of the Early Bronze IV, 500 years after the first occupation. In one of the trenches the archaeologists identified a courtyard area with two ovens still containing large quantities of carbonised seeds, mainly

wheat and perhaps barley, indicating the presence of a flourishing agricultural com-munity which was perhaps also involved in long-distance trade since a copper ingot was found in one of the trenches.

A survey conducted in the vicinity of Jebel Reheil led to the identification of 218 previously unrecorded archaeological sites in an area where earlier archaeological work had identified only 35 sites.

The sites are mainly tumuli (ancient burial mounds or barrows) and tombs of different periods, built on hilltops, but there are also some sites of potential scientific importance dated to different periods such as Lower Paleolithic sites dated to over 500,000 years ago: a large Neolithic village 8,000 years old, a period when pottery started to be produced and agriculture became the major source of food supply; several fortified towns dated

between 2900 and 1000 B.C.; a Roman military camp on a strategic position along the Zarqa River and a series of early and middle Islamic villages, in an excellent state of preservation.

Sites which are often not properly considered during an archaeological project, such as traditional villages and recent bedouin camps were also recorded, in order to collect a complete record of human occupation and land use of this fertile but semi-arid area at the

edge of the desert. The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Research Council of Italy provide grants for the fieldwork. and the project also received generous support and help from the Department of Antiquities and the American Centre of Oriental Research (ACOR), and the encouragement and assistance of the Italian embassy in Amman.

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International Community School (The British Curriculum School in Ammain)

The International Community School, in Khilda, requires a primary teacher for September 1994. The successful applicant must have full British, or equivalent, teaching qualifications and preferably have working knowledge of the U.K. national curriculum. Interested candidates are requested to contact the school office for further details and application form which should be returned to ICS as soon as possible

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Disturbing idleness

FOR MORE than two years now the chapter of genocide and war crimes has continued in Bosnia. The western powers alone command the necessary tools to put an end to the chain of crimes against humanity committed there, principally by the Serbs. But western countries are still at loggerheads with one another as to what should be done in order to end the fighting. U.S. President Bill Clinton made the crisis in former Yugoslavia one of his key campaign issues by repeatedly criticising former U.S. President George Bush and other western leaders for their inaction in the face of the untold atrocities in Bosnia. President Clinton has yet to deliver on his pledges and has so far refrained from using effective U.S. clout to end the tragedies that have afflicted the Bosnian

Sensing this indecisive American stance, the other western powers saw no reason to take any initiative of action on their own. Several high-ranking U.S. officials have resigned out of sheer disgust with their government's ignominious stand. However, the Clinton administration has belatedly been making new noise about the need to make air strikes against Serb forces that are mercilessly bombarding Sarajevo and other Muslim enclaves in a bid to make them accept the results of the two-year-old Serbian aggression. Several NATO meetings were devoted to the subject of how to deal effectively with Serbian war record but nothing concrete has come out of those meetings. Now it seems that Paris and Washington are at odds over what to do next, after repeated, unfulfilled western threats to resort to air strikes against Serbian heavy gunners.

It is now reported that France favours an imposed settlement, while Washington seems to resist this call without a meaningful alternative, like lifting the ban on arming the defenseless Muslim Bosnians. It is utterly unacceptable to impose a ban on arms to all factions in rump Yugoslavia without differential treatment of

aggressors and victims.

What makes the matter even more complicated is the U.N. reluctance to authorise NATO's decision to carry air strikes against Serb forces. U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali is reported to have denied that there has ever been a call for air strikes by U.N. peacekeeping commanders. Meanwhile, the western powers maintain that only the U.N. can authorise air strikes. The replacement of General Jean Cot, the commander of all U.N. forces in former Yugoslavia, and his aide, General Francis Briquement, highlight the growing differences between U.N. commanders and the U.N. secretary general. General Cot has charged of Monday that Mr. Ghali who has refused to allow air strikes and not the other way round.

The picture that emerges therefore from the battlefield, the U.N. headquarters and the western capitals is something that is most disturbing. The Muslim countries have also to be blamed. There record on the Bosnian situation has been more rhetorical than anything else. If the international community sensed that the Islamic World did not sit idle by in the face of the open atrocities being perpetrated against their fellow Muslims in Bosnia, Washington, Paris, London and all the other important centres of power in the world would most likely sing another tune.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily Tuesday expressed the view that Yasser Arafat's visit to Saudi Arabia and his talks with King Fahd marked the beginning of the process of ending inter-Arab differences and a start of reconciliation among Arab regimes. Mahmoud Rimawi said that the visit is important in view of the influence Saudi Arabia has on the other Arab countries in the Gulf region which had their relations strained with Palestinians, Jordanians and others that opposed foreign intervention in the Gulf crisis. The writer noted however that the Gulf states are now involved in the multilateral phase of the Middle East peace process and the time has come for them and the rest of the Arab countries to base their relationship on a firm and reasonable basis. The Arabs have to coordinate their positions regardless of their past differences because they together face American pressure on them to end their boycott of Israeli goods on the one hand and because they are together involved in the peace process with Israel on the other, said the writer. Furthermore, the writer referred to the Gulf states' support for the Oslo deal, between the PLO and Israel, noting that these states have already pledged to offer millions of dollars in aid to help develop the occupied Arab territories. He expressed hope that Mr. Arafat's visit would open the way for reconciliation among the Arabs on the widest possible scale.

A COLUMNIST in Sawt Al Shaab daily said that it was natural for the so-called sharks among the importers of food and medicine to be furious over the recent health minister's statements about manipulations of imported food and medicine, but it was surprising to many people to see the Pharmacists Association supporting the sharks and criticising the minister's statement. It was natural for the merchants and the drug store owners to fill the press with advertisements and notices decrying the minister's accusations and defending their own actions, but it is also natural for the ordinary citizens to back the minister and his measures to deal with corruption, said Ahmad Dabbas. The writer also said that it is the people who are most affected by the bad food or ineffective drugs and therefore the public is called on to come out strongly in support of the minister and his views and his measures to put the matters right. The writer said that the Jordanian people still remembers that Iraqis had fallen victim to the sharks when they despatched to Iraq shipments of contaminated poultry meat and medicines which caused a big scandal for the Jordanian merchants at the time.



Empty words don't put down nationalist extremism

By Anthony Lewis

PALO ALTO, California - In the images that pass for statecraft, Bill Clinton's European tour was a great success. He charmed the leaders of Eastern Europe while denying them NATO membership. He was as impressive in a Russian as in an American town meeting. He and President Boris Yeltsin agreed to point their nuclear missiles away from each other.

But the missiles can be re-targeted in minutes. And charm will not count for much with Russians or East Europeans when they face the menace that really threatens

Fascism is the growing danger in Europe: extreme nationalism that expresses itself in murderous hatred of other ethnic, religious and racial groups. It is there in the rise of Vladimir Zhirinovsky in Russia, the ethnic feelings on the boil all around the former Soviet Union and the violence of Serbian terror in Bosnia.

Comfortable Americans have very little sense of how terrifying nationalist extremism can be. I had a tiny taste of it the other day in a public meeting here at Stanford University, when a number of speak about the war in Bosnia. Serbs were only fighting for their freedom, they said. The world was trying to destroy the Serbian nation. Serbs could not live as part of another country, Croatia or Bosnia. Finally, one man denied that Serbian forces were shelling Sarajevo.

sincere. That made the extremity of their words the more chilling. For there was the paranoia that is the handmaiden of hate. There was the terrible claim that distant members of the mystical nation, like Germans in Czechoslovakia's Sudetenland in 1938, must be physically joined to the Father-

The powerful feelings of

security in the post-cold war years. Nor doubt, I believe, that Serbian aggression in Bosnia is the first, urgent test of the North Atlantic Alliance's

ability to meet the threat. NATO has reacted so far with empty words: promises to bomb the Serbs if they go on shelling Sarajevo and trying to starve out Bosnians in other surrounded pockets. At the NATO meeting in Brussels,

"The so-called leaders of the western world have known what is happening here for the last year and a half. They talk of prosecut-

ing war criminals, but do nothing to stop the crimes. May God forgive them. May God forgive us

those Serbian-Americans showed how effective - how magogue can be. Instead of grieving because their nation has been led into aggression by a thug, Slobodan Milosevic, they accept his demagogy as

gospel.
No serious person who looks at Europe today can doubt that nationalist extremism is the main threat to its peace and President Clinton and the

others said the words again. remain empty. Mr. Milosevic knows that, and surely Mr. Zhirinovsky does. "If a local Balkan thug can stand up to NATO and the world's last superpower, what might a Russian fascist with a nuclear arsenal feel confident enough to try?" The question was asked last week by Stephen W.

Walker, one of five State Department officials who have resigned over U.S. policy to-

Mr. Walker spoke of "our capitulation in the Balkans." He said it "emboldens Zhirinovsky and others like him, encouraging their use of nationalism as the ideology of intolerance, hatred and war." Can Mr. Clinton and his advisers really fail to understand that obvious truth?

Many westerners have pushed the daily horror of Bosnia out of their minds. It is a faraway place of which they know little, they think. It is complicated. The hatreds are

Those are the excuses, the avoidances. The reality is that Serbian extremists are trying to exterminate other people, other cultures. If we cannot hear the cries of the victims, perhaps we can credit the testimony of a neutral witness.

A Canadian diplomat, Louis Gentile, wrote to the New York Times about what he was seeing in Banja Luka, a Bosnian city occupied by Serbian forces: men and women, civilians, confronted in their homes and shot in cold blood; all 16 of the city's mosques destroyed, and half the Catho-

"The so-called leaders of the western world have known what is happening here for the last year and a half," Mr. Gentile wrote. "They talk of prosecuting war criminals, but do nothing to stop the crimes. May God forgive them. May God forgive us all" — The New York Times.

United stand against U.N. secretary-general

By Annika Savill

"KAFKAESQUE" is the buzzword gaining currency among senior United Nations officials about life under Boutros Ghali in what they are fond of calling "this house." The secretary-general last week added another name to the list of officials who are departing over their inability to work with him.

Sources say Melissa Wells, the top U.S. official in the U.N. Secretariat, will leave before her term ends in April. As undersecretary-general for administration and management, her job was to seek ways to curb the U.N. budget - a bête noire of the U.S. Congress which has consistently prevented Washington from paying its U.S. assessments on time because of allegations that the world body is proffi-

In her letter of resignation. described by a senior colleague as "remarkably tough", Ms. Wells, a former actress of "mature charm", complained of the lack of teamwork with the secretary-general. She said he was "not fully benefiting" from the resources of his staff because it had been "too difficult and all too rare" for them to find out what he wanted to achieve. As one undersecretary said: "It does say something about the working atmos-

phere in this house. That Mr. Ghali has an idiosyncratic style of management, and that the U.N. faces a difficult period of unprecedented demands for reform, is nothing new. But it is increasingly apparent that all the various camps in New York now feel they have serious grounds to object to him.

"He is neglecting the permanent members of the Security Council," said one senior diplomat. "It used to be the custom that the secretarygeneral attended the formal Secutity Council meetings. Boutros makes a point of not attending. He has appointed a special undersecretary-general whose main function is to attend in his stead. He makes no effort to consult what is effectively his board."

He has differed emphatically from the most important of the P5 members, the U.S., over policy on Somalia. He differed from the U.S. again, this time over Bosnia, by declaring in a letter that air power alone would not ensure the rotation of U.N. troops.

The Third World member-

states, united in the so-called Group of 77, are no happier. "They're very disappointed in him," said a senior U.N. said a senior U.N. source. "They feel he has con-, centrated entirely on a few questions such as peacekeeping and peace-making which efforts are anyway suffering enormous setbacks and ignoring almost entirely the enormous area of social need and Third World prob-

The staff of the U.N. suffer simultaneously from lack of consultation and interference. "He happily meddles in most things, but then does not follow them up property," said one official. Even undersecretaries-general have had to seek approval from members of Dr. Ghali's staff far junior to themselves to make a routine trip abroad.

Dr. Ghali's response to all this is that his officials begrudge him for having disrupted their cozy bureaucratic coterie. And, as one senior diplomat said, "there is integrity in the madness. He has his own views and does not dance to the tune of the Permanent Five. He is clever and quick to form an opinion and is often right. The problem is just that he will not

Dr. Ghali is the U.N.'s sixth secretary-general. Others have created equal in-house controversy for other reasons; Kurt Waldheim made himself unpopular with his staff for things like spending a lot of time getting a U.N. job for at least one unqualified relative.

But for the "integrity" fac-tor, there is a precedent. Dag Hammarskjöld, the U.N.'s second secretary-general-who was killed in a plane crash in Africa 33 years ago this autumn, was notorious for it. "He was obsessively stubborn in his own integrity," said one

veteran U.N. diplomat. Hammarskjöld's writings convey the picture of a man to whom no sacrifice for the common good was too great; but who by the same token saw himself as a Christ-like figure. Some of his colleagues say he was crippled by a combination of zeal, solitude and vanity. .

"But he did systematically build himself a platform among the weaker and smaller nations, whom he believed the U.N. was there to protect," said a former colleague.

Hammarskiöld's vision was that of third superpower, tak-ing up the voices of the smaller nations, answerable only to itself. His peace mission to the Congo put him irrevocably at odds with the Russians; whether it was that controversy which cost him his life in plane crash over Ndola-has never been proven.

What has since emerged is that, had he lived, Mr. Hammarskjöld's reelection would have been blocked by Moscow. Had he lived and stayed on in the job, many believe he would eventually have split the U.N. in two. It was in death that Hammarskjöld was elevated to near-sainthood. Being a great secretary-general in life is har-der — The Independent.

After the big bang, Italy needs new constellations

By Lucia Annunziata

WASHINGTON - One extraordinary result of ltaly's political turbulence has been the collapse of the country's strongest and most popular party, the Christian Democrats. Remnants of the party. which had been a linchpin of the western alliance, have even renamed themselves, much as the Communists of Eastern Europe did after the fall of the

The parallel is apt. For a half-century, the Christian Democratic Party stood at the core of one of the cold war's most successful political systems, one engineered by Washington and its allies to keep Italy's strong Communist Party at bay. Over time. Christian Democrats rivaled Communist regimes to the east in terms of their monumental corruption and the longevity of their ruling class.

In the wreckage of the system, some Italians now refer to seven-time Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti as their Erich Honecker. Once an allpowerful political fixture, Mr. Andreotti is now under investigation for ties to the Mafia.

The Christian Democrats anchored Italy to a political middle ground with a mix of Italian traditions — capitalism and Catholicism, anticommunism and liberalism. patronage and modernism. As the party broke apart, it sent shards flying to the extreme edges of the country's political universe. A landscape of polarisation was left behind.

The Communist Party. weakened in the '80's and declared dead after the fall of the Berlin wall, changed its name to the Democratic Party of the

Left and has emerged as Italy's strongest national force. The fascist party, long marginalised and small. is making a vigorous comeback, particularly in Rome and Naples. The Northern League, a strong regionalist party, has developed almost out of nowhere, advocating a tax revolt against the central government and a federal system to separate the prosperous

north from the poorer south. The United States helped build the First Republic after World War II with political and financial support. In 1948. Washington intervened with covert financial support for the Christian Democrats. This effectively excluded from power the Communists, who had emerged strong from the war. It was containment within a frontline state in the East-West

The Christian Democrats were surrounded by smaller parties that shared in the power in order to maintain a national consensus. Despite a revolving-door succession of prime ministers. stability was maintained for 45 years. But the end of the cold war dissolved the ideological glue of

this arrangement, and almost overnight the First Republic folded.

The financial reasons for maintaining a national consensus also disintegrated. Demands for fiscal discipline from the new European Union meant an end to the excessive patronage, tax evasion, kickbacks and bribes that made for political contentment but drained government coffers.

Cracks in the system allowed a disaffected group of magistrates in Milan to start prosecuting the extensive corruption. The public responded with the kind of enthusiasm associated with the circus in ancient Rome, cheering every revelation of corruption made against formerly untouchable

The Northern League, the fascists and the former Communists — all parties on the outside of the First Republic collected the votes of protest against the old regime.

This polarisation is a step towards a permanent realignment of Italian politics. From an institutional point of view. Italy is abandoning the multiparty system and moving from a proportional voting system to one in which two or maybe three parties will gain seats. Consensus government, formed by back-room dealings among party leaders, will be replaced by winner-take-all government created at the

This change looks good on paper, but it will require a new mind-set for Italians. The main question that torments the public is not about extremism but about the centre. The centre, with its tradition of patronage, not only has governed for a half-century but is deeply a part of the main traditions of the country. Can Italy survive without a central force, or should another one emerge? Can the present extremes, on the right or the left, somehow become centrist? Or can the former, fragmented parties, even the Christian Democrats, regroup? The next round of elections will give us at least some of the answers.

The big bang has taken place, but the new constellations are not yet formed. The transition may be dangerous. Because of the uncertainties, Italy is experiencing high unemployment, a currency in degeneration, public cynicism and the ever present threat of political and Mafia violence. Italy's experiment is West Europe's first full-blown transition from cold war politics. It is a revolution, but one

carried out in the full light of democracy - and one that cannot be left to sink into chaos and instability.

The writer is Washington correspondent for the Italian newspaper Corriere della Sera. This article is reprinted from The Washington Post.

Perry smart, tough but political skills doubted.

By Gene Gibbons Reuter

WASHINGTON — President Clinton's new nominee for defence secretary has legions of admirers in the Pentagon and Congress but even Bill Perry's fans wonder if he is politically suited for the highly deman-

ding cabinet post.

"Perry's a techie (technocrat). He has focused on defence technology all his life. and does it very well. But he's an unknown quantity on the bigger strategic and political issues — how to downsize defence, gays in the military, Bosnia, Somalia and things like that," said one defence expert. A senior military officer said

Mr. Clinton's nominee was "well respected by the uniformed side," but he added that Mr. Perry was "not known to be a compelling spokesman' on military policy.
One of the contentious

issues the new defence secretary will have to face is reconciling U.S. military strategy with defence budget cuts that will make it hard, if not impossible, to staff, train and modernise the forces needed to implement the strategy.

"The services are going to be coming in asking for more money, and there isn't any more. So you're going to have this enormous firestorm, and the secretary will beright in the middle of it," the defence expert said.

In announcing that the had selected Mr. Perry, a softspoken former professor, to replace Les Aspin as Pentagon chief, Mr. Clinton called him "a real pro" with "the right skills and management experience for the job.

Mr. Perry, 66, is currently the administration's number

two defence official. His chance at promotion came after others spurned the opportunity to grab the nomination given up by retired navy Admiral Bobby Ray Imman last week.

During Jimmy Carter's presidency, he was undersecretary of defence for research and engineering. Mr. Perry headed a defence firm before that, and earlier in his career, was the director of GTE-Sylvania's Electronic Defence Labs...

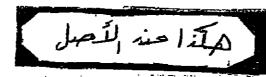
An analyst familair with Mr. Perry's service in the Carter administration said Mr. Perry had singlehandledly spurred development of the Toma-hawk cruise missle and "stealth" fighter technology used in the 1991 Gulf war over Kuwait.

"He's very quiet, deceptive-ly quiet and gentle. But he's very tough despite this calm exterior," this source said. Mr. Perry is also believed to

be easily confirmable. "He is smart, thoughtful and highly-regarded on both (Democratic and Republican) sides of the aisle. He might be a diamond in the rough," said a congres-sional source.

"Perry is a bright, capable guy. He's been a success in business and government. The question is, is he the person to round out Clinton's national security team — can he take on the press and otherwise handle the public role of deterice secretary Mr. Korb asked.

Although foreign policy is not now expected to be a major issue in this year's congressional election campaign, the turmoil in Russia, North Korea's suspected efforts to acquire nuclear weapons and ethnic strife around the world are but some of the things that could blow up at any moment.



Work initially's Red Brigades guerrillas.

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and Mr. Curcio himself.

But Mr. Curcio says the publishing house, called Sensibili Alle Foglie (Sensitive to leaves), "Wasn't born in politics but in the human experiences of imprisonment."

Mr. Curcio was considered the master theoretician of the Red Brigades group which sowed fear among Italy's conservative elite from 1970 to the mid-1980s.

A legendary figure in Italy. he is renowned for never having touched a pistol or personally participated in any of group's more than 3,000 acts of political violence.

Mr. Curcio was first imprisoned in a government crackdown on the Red Brigades' activities in the mid 1970s. He escaped from prison in 1975 in a brigades raid led by his wife. Margherita Cagol.

She was killed three months later in a shoot-out with police after a kidnapping attempt. Mr Curcio was recaptured in 1976, convicted of masterminding the group and jailed.

The group's notoriety peaked in 1978 with the sensational kidnapping and murder of former Prime Minister Aldo

The brigades held Moro for 55 days, evading a manhunt by more than 13,000 police.

mission in publishing

They dumped Moro's body in a car parked symbolically midway between the headquarters of Moro's Christian. Democrat Party and of the Communist Party he was trying to bring into government.

Mr. Curcio's feelings about the use of violence for political ends are unclear to this day. Former brigade members have said he was ill adapted to deal with the violent realities of revolutionary life, and in 1982 he began giving interviews from prison in which he

that armed struggle was futile. In a recent interview at the publishing house, Mr. Curcio said his revolutionary passion waned during his incarceration and was replaced by a fascination with the effects of imprisonment.

expressed a definitive belief

Mr. Curcio wrote his first book. Nel Bosco di Bistorco (Bistorco wood); with other inmates in 1990 after they began researching the subject.

them former prisoners. Colourful paintings by in-"We studied not political imprisonment, but the experience mates brighten the otherwise spartan decor.

The first series of books distributed by the publishing house continued to explore the theme of imprisonment.

It included a book by a severely handicapped woman who began living on her own as an adult after spending her entire life in one of Italy's most notorious state institutions.

Another book from the series, "Princess", is about the experience of being a transsexual. It was written by a Brazilian transsexual who had just completed a prison term for prostitution and who now works at Mr. Curcio's publishing house.

A new series out this year studies the relationship between Italian society and growing immigrant group from Africa, the Middle East and

The publishing house has released 16 books to date but Mr. Curcio hopes to produce 40 to 50 books in 1994.

"Our books have generated big interest in the Italian cultural world. I think it is because we are writing about worlds that for the most part are unknown," he said.

Iran-contra — wheeling and dealing in the Reagan White House

By Pete Yost
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - As the Reagan White House plunged into the chaos of the Irancontra scandal, administration officials took care of the business at hand: They cut each other's throats and protected the president.

A portrait of political disaster emerges from detailed notes of Vice-President George Bush, White House Chief of Staff Don Regan, aides to Secretary of State George Shultz and others and the notes are quoted extensively in the final report of prosecutor Lawrence Walsh.

Mr. Bush thought forced resignations would help quell the public uproar over the diversion of Iran arms sales money to the contras, according to his tape-recorded diaries for Nov. 25, 1986.

"Regan should go. Shultz should go" and Mr. Reagan "ought to get this all behind him in the next couple of months," Mr. Bush confided to the president, according to the vice-president's recollections which he dictated into a tape recorder.

When Mr. Bush reported later that Mr. Regan had agreed to resign "the president was very, very pleased" and "he thanked me about three times," Mr. Bush told his diary. "He was concerned that Don would walk in and see us talking, so I left after about 15 minutes.

Mr. Bush showed Mr. R.eagan newspaper articles suggesting that Mr. Regan, Mr. Shultz and National Security Adviser John Poindexter

By Erik Kirschbaum

Reuter

"are all out there with leaks and peddling their own line." Mr. Bush said in his diary that he and Mr. Reagan "talked about the need to get the Shultz resignation stories in shape.

Mr. Shultz, meanwhile, was telling aides that Mr. Bush "is up to his ears infran" and that Mr. Bush was "getting drawn into a web of lies," according to one aide's notes. "The whole thing crushes Bush... I don't think he can get elected now on his own."

Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William Casey wanted Mr. Reagan to get rid of Mr. Shultz. Mr. Shultz wanted the president to fire Mr. Poindexter. Eventually, Mr. Poindexter was forced to resign and White House aide Oliver North was fired. Mr. Regan stepped down three months later for failing to control the political damage to the

One of the White House's many problems in 1986: How to deal with a possibly illegal White House-approved shipment of Hawk missiles to Iran. The President told Mr. Shultz he had known about the Hawks delivery - but the president stood by silently two days later - when Attorney General Edwin Meese announced in a meeting of Mr. Reagan and his aides that the president hadn't known.

"They're rearranging the record," Mr. Shultz later told an aide, who wrote down the

The scandal was a lawyer's nightmare. Had laws been violated by the secret arms sales or hadn't they?

Russian troops leaving Germany

take airport runway with them

White House aide "exed" when White House counsel Peter Wallison tried to delete a sentence from a proposed administration statement that said all laws had been complied with in the Iran initiative. Mr. Wallison had grave doubts whether this was true - but "I was told" by Mr. Regan "that this is what the AG wanted said," and that the president did as well, Mr. Wal-

lison wrote in his diary. First lady Nancy Reagan told the White House chief of staff that she and the president were "very upset" mounting public furor, according to Mr. Regan's notes. According to his notes, Mr. Regan "told her we're going to have to dump hostages to save pres's reputation, if necessary. She agreed Risking presiden-

Prosecutors didn't discover until 1992 that Mr. Regan had notes. The ex-White House chief of staff said he left the originals at the White House when he resigned under pressure in 1987. But the Bush White House told Mr. Walsh that they couldn't be found. Mr. Regan supplied Mr. Walsh with his copies, An aide discovered Mr.

Bush's diaries in September 1992 locked in a safe in the Bush family residence on the third floor of the White House. Mr. Bush's lawyers didn't disclose the diaries' existence to Mr. Walsh for another three months, until the presidential election had passed. Mr. Bush released selected diary entries a year ago, but Mr. Walsh presented far more revealing entries in the prosecutor's final

a precedent of CAIRO (AP) — Suspected oid, the Fradicals charged with attempetary general well-minister countered a government a plane well-ment ban on foreign journalists and appears ago the countered their trial by refusing notorious to the calk to Fountian reporters

liegnity in Southern Egypt, meandiplomat while, two civilian courts cited kjöld's manuack of evidence in acquitting

Christ-like is mendicals are escalating attacks colleagues is an applice in the south. More by a combining and police have been killed in the past year, and militants

if colleague displace the secular governjoid's visid assembles led to nearly 300 deaths in
superposed the meating past two years.
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rerable only in being tried in military court for
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im irrevocal to whether Minister Ates Sedki rethe Rusin and the defendance of the Rusin and the court for

by the international media. They also claimed reelection a buteramined by a male doctor, scked by Mos . 40 saying they were embarrassed and stayed a me show signs of torture "in

The defendants' ban on the

tian media from covering the

trial for a second time. Foreign reporters were banned from the opening session Saturday. Fifteen defendants are on trial, but six are at large and being tried in absentia. The attackers missed their target in the car bomb attack on Dr. Sedki, but a schoolgirl was killed and 21 other people were wounded.

The government has regularly denied accusations of prison torture levelled by defendants and human rights groups. Authorities say there may be individual instances of torture and claim these are being investi-

In the trials in southern Egypt, a criminal court in Assiyut acquitted an alleged Muslim militant leader and five other men of charges of sectarian violence that led to the death of 12 coptic Christians and a Muslim.

The case grew out of a property dispute between Muslims Christians'll March 1992, and a member of a Muslim group was killed in the village of Sanabo, near Assiyut. Vendetta killings followed, culminating with an armed attack by about 40 Muslim extremists on

One defendant, Gamal Farghali Hereidy, is allegedly a leader of the outlawed Al Gamaa Al Islamiyah, and remained in custody in other cases. Among the other defendants were two Coptic

A state security court in Assiyut also acquitted two alleged Muslim militants charged with attempting to blow up a train in October



of imprisonment of the body.

This includes imprisonment in

jail or concentration camps

and the imprisonment of a

particular illness such as autism

or a handicap," Mr. Curcio

Instead of offering the book

to an established publisher.

Mr. Curcio said he decided to

publish it himself. A year later.

with the help of friends outside

prison, the publishing house

After contributing from be-

hind bars, Mr. Curcio became

a full-fledged publisher last April when a judge granted his

request to enter a work-release

programme.
The judge cited an assurance

from Mr. Curcio's mother that

he was "no longer the same

person who wanted to stage a

Mr. Curcio now oversees a

small but bustling operation in

a three-room apartment over-

looking the main square of the

working class Rome neigh-

bourhood of Testaccio. There

are 10 employees, most of

opened its first offices.

ALERT: National guardsmen keep watch at an apartment building where 16 people died Jan. 17 during an earthquake that hit California (see

page 8). Residents were allowed to enter the condemned building for 15 minutes at a time to collect personal effects (AFP photo)

Russian reformer's future in balance

MOSCOW (AP) — The status of leading reformer Boris Fyodorov became teven mur-kier Tuesday when President Boris Yeltsin's office said Mr. Fyodorov had not formally resigned as finance minister. Mr. Fyodorov's departure

would signal an abrupt change om the free market reforms of the past two years to a more conservative approach that calls for more subsidies to state enterprises and more Sovietstyle social welfare prog-

Mr. Fyodorov said last week he was resigning because a cabinet shakeup had given conservatives too much authority. His move came after the resignation of the administration's top free-market reformer, Yegor Gaidar.

But on Monday, Prime said he had not accepted Mr. Fyodorov's resignation, and on Tuesday Mr. Yeltsin's office said no resignation had even been submitted.

ov remains a minister as far as Yeltsin is concerned. Fyodorov hasn't formally submitted his resignation," Mr. Yeltsin's spokesman, Anatoly Krasikov, told the Associated Press.

Mr. Krasikov said "there were all grounds to believe" that Mr. Yeltsin will meet with discuss the minister's future. Indecision over Mr. Fvodor-

ov's role in the new government could be a sign of conflict between Mr. Yeltsin and Mr.

"As of this minute, Fyodor-Chernomyrdin. **Committees to probe situation**

(Continued from page 1)

tigation and expose those tampering with food and medi-

cine regulations. They also demanded that the government "shoulder its responsibilities and expose the source of corruption as well as inform the people on the truth and put those responsible for the violations on public trial."

The six parties signing the statement were: The Arab Baath Socialist Party, the Jordanian Arab Democratic Party, the Jordanian Communist Party, the Jordan's People's Democratic Party, the Jorda-nian Democratic Popular Unity Party and the Jordanian Socialist Democratic Party.

In comments on Jordan Television later Tuesday, Dr. Malhas said the Ministry of Health had drawn up new regulations for controlling food items and preventing the entry of sub-standard products into

"There is a garbage market in producer countries, which seek to get rid of their undesired, sub-standard products, either by destroying them or selling them to countries like ours," Dr. Malhas said.

A recently drawn up regulation on food quality was approved by the Cabinet, he said, adding that the Ministry of Health was determined to implement the new control measures.

The new measures, he said, were "rejected by a certain group, whose major concern is to secure a higher profit margin.

"Some merchants have threatened, in a cable to the Cabinet, to stop importing food items during the month of Ramadan," when there is a high demand, Dr. Malhas said.

While the objective of the ministry is to improve its per-

(Continued from page 1) every problem that we have."

jor effort progress being made on all the other tracks."

"I have been impressed during my visit and throughout with the U.S. administration,' the entire region."

Russians planned to remove. The Neuruppin airstrip and

NEURUPPIN, Germany -Russian troops have a reputation for stripping their bases in East Germany of anything they can take - from windows to doors and even the kitchen

Germany.

shipped east. uhr, a regional director for Germany's Federal Property Office. "Perhaps it

Since December, a detail of 20 Russian soldiers has been chiselling 1.5 tonne cement panels out of the ground, and with the help of two cranes. loading them onto railway

Each slab is eight metres

The Russians will have hauled away about 4,000 slabs by the time the operation is finished next month, cutting the runway in half from its current ready-for-combat

Town planners in Neuruppin are eager to convert the former Soviet base into an industrial park and have sketched out plans to use the truncated runway for private propeller A spokesman for the Rus-

sian Army's command headquarters in Germany said the runway was being taken home because it was needed there. "We have runways in Russia, but not enough," said the spokesman, who declined to give his name. "Some are only

merely the first runway in the

former East Germany that the

other runways in what was once the Warsaw Pact's frontline state will be transported to military bases in the north Caucasus, in the Volga region and near Moscow, he said. The idea of taking a cement

runway thousands of km may be new but Russia has a history of taking things home from

After the capitulation of the Nazi Third Reich in 1945. much of the industrial machinery in Eastern Germany -then the Soviet zone of occupation — was packed up and

Whole factories were dismantled and sent home because the Soviet Union - unlike its western allies the United States, Britain and France - was intent on extracting heavy reparations from Germany and rebuilding its own

shattered economy. This time, many locals are glad the Russians are doing a little asset-stripping.

The noise from the horrible Russian jets was deafening. said Ilona Yanik, walking her daughter to kindergarten in the town centre less than one km from

"They would take off at all hours of the day and night." Other residents said the noise was worst when the jet engines were overhauled. Mechanics would test them on the ground at full throttle. The ear-splitting noise, although brief, was so intense that conversations throughout the town

came to an abrupt halt. Alfred Hackius, a 45-yearold electrician, said most of residents in this attractive town of 27,000 were delighted when the 20,000 Soviet airmen left in 1991 and the noise stopped. But he said many had feared

the federal government might

try to turn the base into an international airport. "We're all happy that won't happen," said Mr. Hackius.

"We treasure the quiet here now. As far as we're concerned they can take this runway anywhere they want.

With hundreds of cement slabs stacked in neat piles along the northern end of the runway waiting for one of 20 freight trains that will take them east, there is an eerie feeling to the virtually empty airbase

A few local entrepreneurs are using some of the vacant hangars as inexpensive and un-

heated offices. The apartments on the fringe of the runway that once housed Soviet officers and their families have been picked

The doors and windows in most buildings have been removed. Inside the abandoned flats, even the sinks and toilets are missing. The only things left are garbage and old Rus-

sian newspapers. "The Russians have different ideas about property ownership," said a German army officer. They take just about everything, whether or not it is

nailed down. He said they had taken plumbing, electrical wiring and even rain gutters when they

As part of the treaties that led to German unity in 1990, the Soviet Union agreed to withdraw its troops by the end of 1994. There were some 380,000 Soviet troops stationed in East Germany during the cold war. There are 36,000 still

here. The German air force first used the Neuruppin airbase as a training centre for pilots before World War I. It was built up by the Nazis before World

Although damaged by a British bombing raid in 1945, the base was repaired and expanded by the Soviets.

During the cold war, the Neuruppin airbase was just 80 km due east of the former West German border.

Crack police unit probes chopped-up body mystery

By Remy Bellon . Agence France Presse

PARIS - A crack Paris police unit, solver of terrorist murders and serial killings, is probing the mystery of a body cut into 90 pieces and abandoned in 30 plastic bags.

The 100-strong detective unit, the criminal brigade or "crim" for short, specialises in sensitive cases or those requiring painstaking inquiries, and its latest success was the arrest of last week of 22-year-old Claude Lastennet, accused of strangling five old ladies in a southern Paris suburb.

have trouble getting to the bottom of the "body in 90 pieces" mystery which might even have baffled Georges Simenon's detective Maigret..

It came to light on January 9 in Paris's 20th District in a tunnel leading to the catacombs where thousands of medieval skeletons are

found more recent remains a plastic bag with a man's head found four other bags with more remains, including the man's pelvis. In the end, a total of 30 bags

containing 90 neatly dissected pieces of body were found in the area, but there was nothing to identify the victim who appeared to be of North Afri-

groups: One to work on fingerprints, another on an identikit picture of the killer and the third to make inquiries along a bus route that passed by the homes of the victims.

Lastennet followed his frail victims to their homes after they had visited the bank or been shopping. He pushed them inside, strangled them, took their savings and hopped back on the bus.

Lastennet was finally caught on the evidence of someone who knew him at the workers' hostel where he lived.

"Sometimes, old cases come up again when we get a new clue," said Mr. Cavin. "A pair of glasses or an unexpected

is the U.N. Among his authors are a neral. Other primary pranssexual, an AIDS sufferer other made to the made to the sum made a U.N. 1911 refuse to talk to media

notorious has to talk to Egyptian reporters sessively and Shesday.

icture of and ceight men of crimes connected rifice for the moto alleged Muslim militant incias too gra ad dents. same toke we nThe court rulings come as

ide and we will the past year, and militants did systems the say they are avenging death a platforms and smaller and smaller and smaller and torture of suspects in jail.

The killings are part of the tere to pure a radicals, violent campaign to recolleague.

the Rusic anticed to speak to Egyptian s that communicately orders. They said they did im his life and their trust the local reporters over Note and wanted the trial reported lived. Mr. !- arehittured in jail and asked to be

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local media came as court authorities stopped reporters and photographers for non-Egyp-Self-rule talks resume in Cairo

the nominal meet. the notation Mr., Arafat arrived in Cairo by Ray Larrier Tuesday from Saudi Arabia where he held his first meeting with Saudi King Fahd in three years. The meeting in underscool in the most of t before that the support of the Iraqi invasion of

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GTE-Sylvania in 1990. try said Tuesday that Mr. Peres amilair with respect to her strain and our recent annual war speek to brief U.S. Secretary of in the vinState Warren Christopher on of the missie as model of the missie as the missie as the missie as missie a

nter technon: acached in Davos," said Israeli Sarid. However, Mr. Arafat said in quiet decepte mowever, Mr. Arafat said in tenrile. But a minimum interview with the Londonspite this ca qased daily Al Hayat: "There source said also believed to continue the discussions this imable. The said was no progress, but we agreed to continue the discussions this week to overcome the difference between us."

th (Democratical Mr. Sarid said Israel will in) sides of the control of the a diameter of the a diameter of the a diameter of the a diameter of the control bright. Cape in the future singutonomous Palestinian terri-n a success of large success of the borders and will be borders and will be borders. wernment is the borders and will have the

the person land same borders and will have the landssibility of checking any control of checking any checking any control of checking and chec

Mr. Sarid was speaking after

motion (m): 4 (Continued from page 1)

meeting, the radio said. Israel Radio said Mr. Rabin agreed that there would be no 'visible" Israeli security presence at the crossing points. but checks would be carried

solution over the size of the Jericho area in the West Bank was also in prospect. The two parties were also

brief meeting with the Norwegian ambassador to Cairo and

port for the Palestinian

PLO official said.

a briefing by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on the Davos

out by electronic means. The radio said a compromise

close to an agreement on the security of three roads leading to the Gush Katif region. where most Jewish settlements in the occupied Gaza Strip are grouped, the radio said. In Cairo, Mr. Arafat had a

then left for the Egyptian fore-Asked about his meeting with King Fahd, he told reporters: "It was an important, positive and successful meeting. We discussed many matters and I thanked King Fahd for his and Saudi Arabia's sup-

people."
Mr. Arafat, apparently upbeat after the talks with King Fahd, was optimistic Israel would be out of the Gaza Strip and Jericho by mid-March, a

An official at the Palestinian embassy in Riyadh, quoted Mr. Arafat as telling Palestinians who called on him during his visit to the Saudi capital that "there is progress" in the peace talks with the Israelis. The official quoted Mr. Ara-

fat as saying: "I will be praying: 'Eid Al Fitr" in the

occupied territories.

tormance, this cannot be achieved "unless we admit our

mistakes," he said. Dr. Malhas, who took office in May 1993, paid tribute to all his predecessors saying they had performed their duties in the best manner.

Dr. Malhas said his criticisms in the local press were aimed at the drug control de-partment at the Ministry of Health and not at local pharmaceutical industries, whose products are of good quality.

Mr. Ibrahim, the supply minister, also spoke on Jordan Television on Tuesday. He called for a centralised body to control food imports since the task is now dispersed among six or seven parties. The overlapping of functions

among these parties, he said, makes it difficult to maintain proper control. Mr. Ibrahim blamed the abs ence of proper storage conditions for the appearance of improper food items in the

He said conflicting results of

tests conducted on food items cast doubt on quality and the suitability of such products for human consumption. In any event, the minister of supply said, his ministry had no role in the affair since it assigns the job of testing samples to

market.

either to the Ministry of Health or the Royal Scientific Society or the Department of Cus-He said the Ministry of Supply does not allow the entry of food items into the market unless accompanied by test results that prove they are fit

laboratories which belong

for human consumption. Mr. Ibrahim said his ministry fully observes all regulations related to proper transportation of food items and that he supported the measures adopted by the Ministry of

Jordan wants to move

We do not ratify peace and then begin to negotiate it or the issues that have to be addressed," said the King. Obviously we have always been committed to the a just and comprehensive peace and I hope that we will see as a result of coordination and ma-

this past period by contacts the King said. "The president is a man and has an interest and concern and seems to know all the details and has come to know them in a short time despite his responsibilities," the King said. "I know he is genuine, trying to help see us achieve for future generations peace and security in

sink - when they leave for But one group in the small town of Neuruppin northwest of Berlin is dismantling an airport runway and shipping part

of it back to Russia. The Russians said their MiG jets back home kept getting stuck in the mud and put forward a request to take the runway with them," said

will be put to good use. wagons for shipment back

(yards) long, two metres wide and 20 cm (eight inches) thick.

length of three km. planes.

He said Neuruppin was

Crim commanding officer Superintendent Pierre Cavin claimed a 55 to 60 per cent success rate in solving its cases. But he admitted his men would

stacked. A group of thrill-seekers inside. They told police, who

can origin. There was no clue from his teeth as he had never undergone any dental work. In the case of the serial strangler. The Crim mobilised 18 detectives working in three

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stop capital flight

economic reforms have failed to stop a steady flight of capital from the region due to inadequate financial policies and weak stock markets, a senior Arab economic official said Tuesday.

As a result, overseas assets by the 22 Arab League members have far surprassed their gross domestic product (GDP) at a time when they badly need funds to finance reforms, said Osama Al Fagih, chairman of the Arab Monetary Fund

By the end of 1992. Arab investments abroad, mainly in Japan and the West, exceeded \$650 billion while the com-bined Arab GDP stood at a round \$450 billion, he told a conference on Arab economic reforms here.

"Despite economic achievements made in some Arab countries due to the reform programmes and efforts being exerted in others, our stock markets still need a comprehensive structural development." he said.

There is a general weaknes, in the legislative and orgaisational structures in the markets as well as the absence of secondary exchanges, market-makers and qualified personnel in the financial, auditing and legal functions association with the stock markets,"

Only 10 of the Arab states

have official exchanges but activity in such markets have remained relatively small due to political instability in some members and lack of incentives and information about trading

institutions. In the oil-rich Gulf, turnover in most of the stock markets is among the lowest in the region due to high government ownership, a tendency for longterm investment and restriction of dealing to natinals.

Egypt, Joirdan, Algeria, Morocco and other Arab nations have embarked on reforms to heal their economic problems, mainly large foreign debt, slow growth, low investment, unemployment and deficit in their budgets and balance of pyaments. The four countries owe more than 70 of the total Arab debt of over

\$150 billion. The problems \$370 billion in loans and other forms of cash over the past two decades. Experts blamed instability, mismanagment of funds and state control

Mr. Faqih, a Saudi, said his Abu Dhabi-based fund was setting cup a data base to link Arab stock markets, where around 1.100 banks a companies trade their shares, with market capitalisation of \$35 billion in 1992.

He said the base, which would provide information on trading institutions in all member states, would start opera-

tion this year. He urged Arabs to step up reforms and those without stock markets to open floors.

"Despite reforms by some members, chronic deficits in the internal and external balances remain in obstacle for growth, and even stability, in Arab economies, with the latest figures showing the deficit in Arab budgets reaching around 15 per cent of the GDP," he said.

"This underscores the need for redressing financial policies and developing stock markets in the Arab World in order to create a framework capable of attracting national and foreign investment and stimulating the private sector to play a greater role in economic and social development," he added. United Arab Emirates

(UAE) minister of state for financial and industrial affairs Ahmad Al Tayer, who opened the two-day conference, said financial politicies in the region needed to be improved to ensure the success of reforms and cushion foreign influences on the domestic economy.

'Arab states, including those in the Gulf, should give financial instruments a greater role in economic growth and in reducing the impact of foreign factors like the decline in demand for their exports," he said. "This could not be done without upgrading their stock

Arab reforms fail to No early relief seen for ailing tanker market

LONDON (R) — Slumbering tanker rates are unlikely to emerge from their long hibernation any time soon, despite hopes for an easing of the poor supply conditions overhanging the market, brokers said Tuesday.

"Rates really are pretty disastrous and the number of ships being fixed is very flat," said one at shipbroker howard Houlder." There is no reason to think the market will pick up any time soon."

A combination of low oil prices and severe weather in certain areas like the east coast of the United States had failed to give the market any appreciable boost, brokers said.

Freight rates for VLCCS (very large crude carriers) chartered out of the Mideast Gulf have averaged between 30 and 35 Worldscale in recent weeks for both eastward and westward-bound voyages. Worldscale (W.S.) is a dol-

lar-linked system of quoting freight rates, making them more compatible internationally. As late as November, rates had averaged W.S.40 but a much-heralded seasonal rebound did not materialise and pessimism slowly set in.

W.S.35 on a trip from the Mideast Gulf to Europe by a typical VLCC currently translates into daily earnings of about \$6,880, shipbroker Clarkson said in its Shipping Intelligence Weekley That gence Weekly. That figure compares with an average annual rate of \$13,417 in 1993 and \$9.898 in 1992.

The market is pinning its

hopes on the second half of 1994 as more old ships approach their fourth survey and it becomes less economical to fix oil vessels, one broker

"But we really need to see a big increase in scrapping for that to impact rates." he added.

In its recent half-yearly outlook, Clarkson said scrapping was progressing and that orderbooks had peaked and were declining.

"The fleet will grow by just 1.2 per cent in 1994, against around 2.2 per cent in 1993. and world trade should grow by rather more than that,' Clarkson research director Martin Stopford told Reuters.

Many brokers however said the market would have to wait effects of any improvement in supply conditions. They held out little hope in the short

"With February stems being quoted and no sign of any change in the demand for crude oil, the patient's giving rise for extreme gone from 'still poorly' to 'grave and giving rise for extreme concern." shipbroker Galbraith's said in its weekly report

"There is still an ample supply of carrying space available for January/early February loading in the Mideast Gulf, including oil company Relet Tonnage," it said.

Owners of vessels operating in the western hemisphere the Caribbean and the east coast of the United States -

have seen rates resist the general bearish trend due to severe weather.

A voyage from the Carsibbean to the U.S. Gulf by a typical-sized 80,000 DWT Aframax fetched an average of W.S.118 in recent days, up from W.S.98 earlier in the

month. However, the harsh temperatures are now easing and rates are expected to nudge lower. Stormy weather in the North Sea is likely to depress rather than boost rates as a lack of of meant less cargoes from that area. brokers said.

Elsewhere, particularly in the West Africa Suezmax market, the outlook remains bleak amid the perennial problem of excewss tonnage supply and weak demand.

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GATT's successor body may start Jan. 1,

GENEVA (R) — The World Trade Organisation (WTO), the GATT's successor body, seems likely to come into being as early as Jan. 1, 1995, six months earlier than previously planned, trade sources have

The global trade body - still savouring the successful con-clusion of the Uruguay Round liberalisation accord last month — will open its annual meeting Wednesday and a consensus appears to be growing in favour of pushing ahead with the WTO.

GATT have opted to omit controversial issues, like drafting new rules on workers' rights, from the agenda of a ministerial meeting in Marrakesh, Morroco, in mid-April to formally sign the round's final act, the trade sources said.

This emerged from an informal meeting Thursday be-tween heads of delegations chaired by Peter Sutherland, chief of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Mr. Sutherland is consulting with major trading nations on the question of the WTO, which under the terms of the Uruguay Round agreement is supposed to go into force by July 1, 1995. Quite a lot of delegates

think it is necessary to get the thing going on Jan. 1," said one trade source. "There is a movement towards an early implementation of the WTO. In the meantime, trade delegates are busily completing bi-lateral tariff schedules, which

must be ready by Feb. 15. While environment issues will remain on the ministerial agenda, questions of workers'

rights and currency movements will be sidestepped and left for future talks, trade sources said. The United States has been pushing for labour standards to be included in future global trade negotiations, and or ministers to address the issue in April. The general view is that we

won't have time to take on

issues that are not clearly manone GATT sources said. "There is a great unwillingness to try to deal with any other issues between now and

too much."

Woods. Trade delegates will debate the annual report of the GATT's ruling council on its activities and rulings in bilateral rows, including contentious sectors such as steel and bana-

With China, Chinese Taipei and the Russian Federation among 20 applicant countries waiting in the wings, questions of future admission are also expected to be raised.

GATT is under pressure to admit major traders as founding members of the world trade organisation.

Only Honduras and Slovenia are close to accession, while the annual meeting is also expected to establish a working pary to study Jordan's recent application, GATT sources

Foreign investors in Russia worry over bleak outlook

MOSCOW (R) - Foreign companies in Russia, sifting through the debris of weeks of political instability, dislike what they see and some are getting cold feet about investing.

One of their major concerns is the inhospitable tax climate, which could keep some major projects in the deep freeze.

The already gloomy outlook has been clouded further by the departure of radical reformers from the government, nationalist and conservative strength in the new parliament and recent presidential de-

The government is desperate for foreign investment, but it doesn't seem to want investors." one Western company executive said.

They have an uncanny ability to shoot themselves in the foot and the neck at the same time," another commented.

One casualty of legislative and fiscal chaos could be the potentially lucrative energy where Western firms have been dangling billions of dollars in front of their cashstrapped but resource-Russian partners.

USX Corp's Marathon Oil Co. is seeking tax guarantees before pressing ahead with a project involving an internaional consortium to developoil and gas fields off the far eastern island of Sakhalin.

At stake for Russia in the long-term Sakhalin deal is

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some \$10 billion in investment. "We're just not going to do it unless we get some sanction from the parliament that says no new taxes." J. David De-nton, manager of Marathon's

operations in Russia, said. Another senior oil executive said it was too early to predict how parliament and the new government would behave.

"Tax has always been a problem. We need a stable fiscal environment that we can work with," he said. There are additional taxes added from time to time, and taxes rise from time to time.

You put it all together and you

have a significant tax burden," The fuel and energy ministry has asked the government to ease the tax burden, which in many cases makes oil exports unprofitable. But the finance nistry, under Boris Fyodor-

-av has so far resisted sweeping Economists say Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin's could cut export taxes to stimulate sales abroad. But there have been no policy statements

on this yet. Taxes faced by foreign oil companies here include export tariffs, excise duties, profit taxes, value added tax (VAT). geological exploration taxes

and royalties. Many firms have been exempted from export tariffs, in-cluding joint ventures and some tariffs have already been reduced. But analysts say the overall picture is still grim and confused.

"There have been some (recent) major revisions to tax said Byron Ratliff. director of petroleum services and a tax partner at international consultancy Price Waterhouse.

"All of this together has created an atmosphere that could very easily put large oil and gas investment on hold another year and maybe other types of investment.

German companies are also finding it increasingly difficult to do business with Russia, complaining that Russian firms do not pay bills and that official corruption is on the in-

According to a survey in which up to 1,400 German firms we asked to take part. the Eastern Europe Committee of the Federation of German Industry (BDI) said a shortage of hard currency was

Other obstacles included political instability in Russia, official corruption, crime, legal uncertainties, problems of property ownership, inflation and problems in communica-

tions and transport. "A significant cause of the worsening payments record of Russian business partners is the shortage of hard currency, which affects almost all companies and has become the most important disruptive factor in business with Russia," the committee said.

Germany is Russia's largest foreign trade partner. Only 20 per cent of German firms surveyed said they would describe business links with Russia as good or very good. Economic cooperation is overwhelmingly seen as prob-

lematic," the report said. It said Russia had a small trade surplus with Germany in the first half of 1993, with exports of over five billion marks and imports from Ger-

many of nearly five billion. The report complained of a lack of transparency about decision-making procedures in Russia, both at corporate and administrative level, and said some attempts were being made to reverse the post-communist-trend towards decentra-

Russia's insistence that licences must be obtained for exports was cited as an obstaand German companies also criticised multiple visas.

"A major disruptive factor for the activities of companies in Russia is increasing corruption among officials and the extortion of protection money," the report said. It said the quality of goods offered by some Russian com-

panies in barter deals was declining. The German companies polled said the motivation of Russian workers was high and their level of technical training was satisfactory but their knowledge of business was poor.

Engineering was the most

important sector for trade with Russia but German companies had seen their Russian business decline by as much as 90 per cent. "The engineering sector is particularly affected by foreign

competition and payments difficulties on the part of Russian partners," the report said. Meanwhile Russia has asked the International Monetary

Fund (IMF) for help in shaping its government budget in hopes the action will free \$1.5 billion in international aid, a senior Russian official has said. "What we want to do is not wait for the (Russian) parlia-ment to formulate the budget.

We want the fund to come now

and work with us together,

Konstantin Kagalovsky, IMF executive director for Russia told Reuters. The IMF declined comment. But international monetary sources confirmed that Russia's Prime Minister Viktor

Chernomyrdin has invited an IMF team to Moscow and that it will be leaving this week. Plans for an IMF negotiating team to travel to Moscow to evaluate Russia's economic prospects were thrown into

doubt last week after a major

cabinet shakeup there.

Israel halts oil imports from Mexico

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Israel has halted crude oil imports from Mexico, which amounted to 1.5 million tonne in 1993, the energy ministry said

"The government decided no longr to subsidise the extra transport costs of Mexican crude taken by Israeli oil companies, and therefore not to renew the Mexican contract which expired at the end of December," Yossef Kolitz, director of the oil administration told AFP.

The companies will get supplies from other markets," he

Israel imports some 10 million tonnes of crude yearly four million tonnes from Egypt (two million tonnes from the 1979 peace treaty and two million tonnes bought from the Egyptian free market), 0.75 million tonnes from Norway, and more than five million kets, Mr. Kolitz explained.

He refused to comment on talks with Egypt and Qatar to provide Israel with natural gas. "All we know is that we will

soon be importing natural gas. a clean source of energy," he Oil makes up 70 per cent of Israel's energy consumption, and coal 28 per cent. The

remainder is supplied by solar

and wind energy plants.

Marrakesh," he added. "New issues could muddy the waters

The ministerial meeting is to be held in Marrakesh from April 12 to 15.

The annual session of GATT's 115 contracting parties (member states) opens in Geneva Wednesday and will end Thursday, according to GATT spokesman David

HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY JANUARY 26, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The triple Moon opposition to Neptune, Uranus and Mars create some peculiar conditions so be sure you don't commit yourself to any new course of action that could lead you in the wrong

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Are you sure you have all the information you need for that new idea you want to put in operation and have you handled any objections from other TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20)

Get an early start putting affairs in order with associates. Forget that private anxiety about which nothing can be done at this time. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Try to find out what associates ouire of you in the early morning, then carry on with obliga-tions in a quiet and efficient

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You are able to complete dull tasks quickly in early morning, and it behooves you to do so, since later you can confer with associates and come to a better understanding without

stepping on toes. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Take the time to improve appearance at barber of beauty shop in the morning, then you will be in a better mood to dig right in and get tasks done more efficiently.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) After you have gotten all in order at home, get out into the

THE Daily Crossword by Al Becker

world of activity for whatever reason you may have in mind, or for pleasure, but be sure you do

not spend too much money. LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Do shopping and get letters out early and be practical in all that you do so that you impress others with your prayerful and logical approach to all important interests.

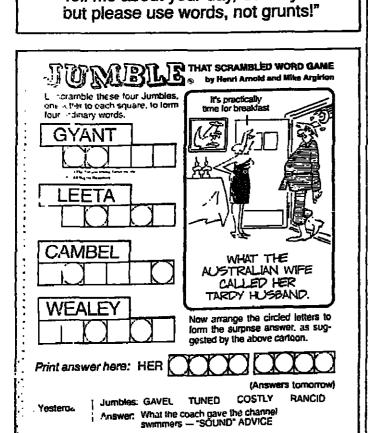
SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) The morning is the best time to handle all financial and real estate matters. Enjoy the company of friends this evening to have a good time. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21)_Know_what_ your true goals are in the early morning, then keep busily occu-

pied puting wheels in motion to

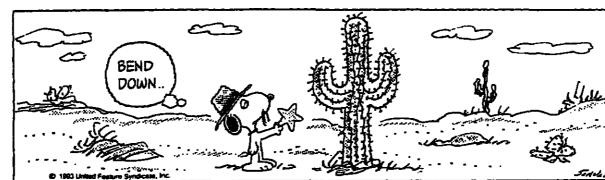
CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Be sure you first plan you itinerary in the morning so that this can be a most success ful day with regard to any interests you may have in mind. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Make it a point to heed the advice of an upright individual today before starting out on your round of calls or

visits, and put suggestions to PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Morning is the best time to get work done and credit imoved, so that the afternoon can be free for making new friends or contacts, as well as enjoy old

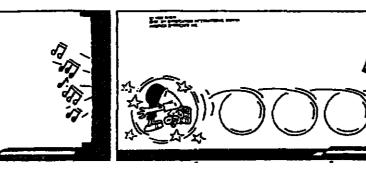
THE BETTER HALF, By Harris Tell me about your day, Stanley —



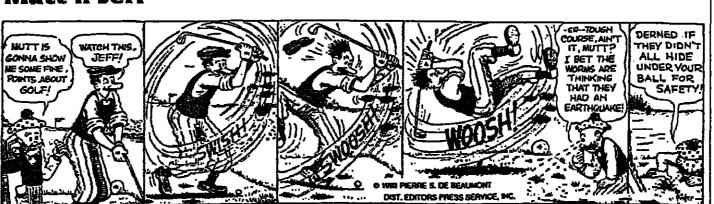
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



15 Ms Gen

20 Johnny— (upstart) 22 Olive genus 23 Ripening fact 24 High ground 26 Make certain 30 Canadian nine 32 Out of kilter 33 Memo 35 Unoriginal 39 Occurring each day 41 Souquet

43 Signature for "The Raven"
44 Name in style
46 Contest
47 Ski mecca
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51 "Where 51 "Where angels — tread" 54 British gun 56 Opposed 57 The etits 63 Division word 64 First name in plays 65 Vietnam city 66 Feast 67 Senethwen

68 Zola 69 Formal address 70 Barely gets by (with "out") 71 Out of style 4 Dies --5 Place for

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11 Marsupial
12 Actress Burst
13 Caesar, e.g.
21 Upper stage |
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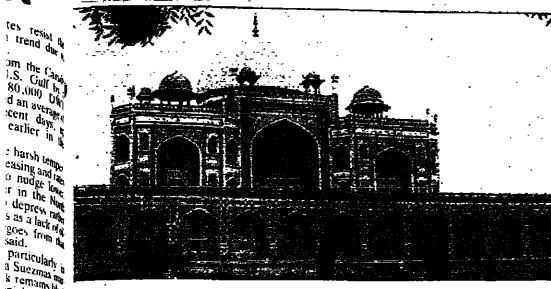
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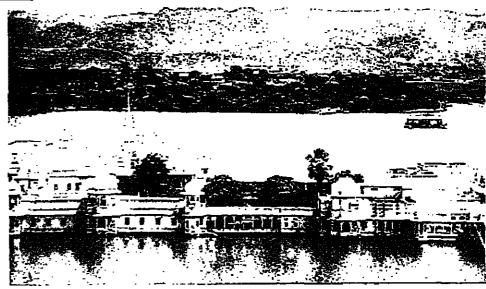
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Indian tourism moves away from tradition to adventure

The tourism authorities in India have chalked out elaborate strategies to ites will deba explore the hitherto uneport of the exploited facets of nacouncil on a ture's myriad exclusive alings in bilant endowments to the Indian sub-continent. A host of idyllic abodes and Chinese Tage mountainous terrains are being opened out for Sucant country adventure tourism. wings, quesum

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With an exciting blend of unbridled freedom, nature wilderness and spellbinding adventure, Indian tourism is now all set to see the international tourist.

As part of this endeavour, tourism authorities have started promoting various segments of special interest tourism like adventure sports and wildlife tours, beach tourism, fairs, festivals, conventions and conferences and summer and winter trekkings.

The new concept aims at attracting a new breed pf tourists who come to India not only to savour priceless ancient monuments, but also to taste a bonanza of river running, hang-glidding, heliskiing, rock-climbing, ballooning, mountaineering and motor rallying.

The National Action

Plan for Tourism, recent-

ly finalised by the government, aims at projecting India as an interesting and exciting destination of the nineties. The plan seeks to increase the share of the foreign tourist arrivals in the country in the global tourism movement from the current level of 0.04 per cent to one per cent in the next five years. It also aims at improving the facilities to tourists particularly the budget category and expanding them so as to provide an affordable holiday. A major objective is also to preserve and enrich the environment and make it an integral part of

While keeping intact the traditional image, India now proposes to encourage diversification of tourism, mainly in the field of leisure, adventure, conventions and incentive tourism, thereby

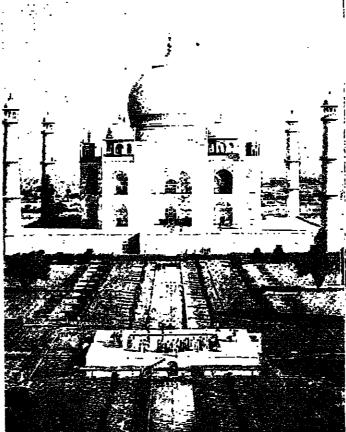
With these changes which seek to supplement the country's cultural image that was highlighted earlier, the tourism industry is expected to attract more number of tourists from across the globe.

New potential tourist attraction spots have been identified with a view to promote them as centres for adventure and sport tourism through improvement in facilities and aggressive publicity and marketing efforts.

Since hotel industry is

Since much of the tourism activities involve nature and its bounties. the impact on environment and possible dam-

taken care of. The emphasis is on balancing tourism harmoniously with the ecosystem without harming the interests of either.



On the occasion of the Republic

Indo-Jordan Scholars Club

conveys its hearty greeting to the gov-

Day of India



On the occasion of the

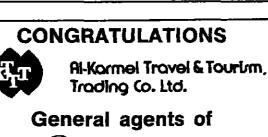
Republic Day of India,

Al Qudah Trading Co., wishes the government and the people of India more progress and prosperity. And many thanks to the Indian embassy for their cooperation.

On the occasion of the Republic Day of India

Dr. Naser Al Maaitah, director of Zarga University Services Est.

conveys his hearty greeting to the government and Indian people.



S AIR·INDIA

in Jordan

Congratulates the friendly Indian nation on India's Republic Day.

On the occasion of THE REPUBLIC DAY OF INDIA AL-KHALEEJ FROZEN MEAT AND FOOD STUFF CO. (AMMAN-JORDAN) Conveys its hearty greetings & felicitations to the people of India



HIJAZI AND GHOSHEH **FOODSTUFF COMPANY**

Warm greetings & felicitations to the president and people of India on the occasion of their

Republic Day.



Greetings to the president and the people of India on the anniversary of the

The Republic Day of India

Yousef Akkad and Sons Company.





MODERN VEHICLE TRADING CO.

Agents of TATA in Jordan and

ELBA HOUSE CO. LTD

Manufacturers of TATA Buses in Jordan Congratulate the president and the people of India on the occasion of the

REPUBLIC DAY





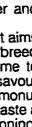
JORDAN FERTILIZER INDUSTRY **COORDINATION COMMITTEE**

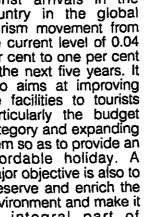
Jordan Phosphate Mines Company





THE PEOPLE OF INDIA A HAPPY REPUBLIC DAY AFFIRMING JORDANIAN FRIENDSHIP AND HOPES OF CONTINUED PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY





tourism.

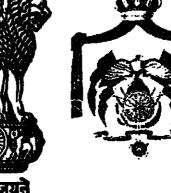
responding to the changing consumer demands. Greater thrust is now being put on specific destination marketing, concentrating on specified circuit destinations in the overseas publicity programme.

the heart of the tourism industry, several liberal incentives are being provided for its growth. In addition, a new scheme for developing camping sites is being started, specially for the low budget tourists to encourage domestic tourism. It has also been planned to introduce a scheme of paying guest accommodation for domestic as well as fore ign tourists with water

ages to it are being



ernment and Indian people







India seeks *friendship. cooperation

In an address to the nation on the eve of the "Republic Day, the president of India, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma. said: "India seeks !peace, friendship and cooperation with all nations and peoples, specially our neighbours in the sub-continent and other countries in Asia . !with whom we have ties enot kindship and culture.

: : He said: "As we enter the forty-fifth year of our republic, each of us must realise, and act upon the realisation. that increasingly, the world of today will test _our every sinew and faculty, virtue and ideal. every system and sector. More than ever before, common sense and plain understanding of present realities enjoin that we must organise ourselves to stand on our own re--sources: Human, institutional, material spiritual, indeed, we shall have to strive ever harder, unitedly and with self-reliance, to go from strength to strength howsoever difficult the task may be."

CONGRATULATIONS MUHMUD AL-SAHILI AND PARTNERS

GENERAL CONTRACTING COMPANY (MAS). SILVER STAR INTERNATIONAL Est (SSI) (MAHMOUD AL-SAHILI SONS)

We extend our deepest felicitations for our friendly country INDIA and wishing the Indian people every progress on the occasion of the 45th Republic Day

M. AL-SAHILI

FELICITATIONS PAK VAN SERVICES

Extend their greetings and best wishes to the people of India on the occasion of the

Republic Day of India

CONGRATULATIONS A. R. Kevorkian Company

wishing the people of India more progress and prosperty on the occasion of

The Republic Day of India

CONGRATULĂTIONS On the occasion of

the Republic Day of India,

the president of Middle East Marketing Services Ltd. and its staff convey its felicitations and cordial wishes to the embassy and the people of India.

Congratulations

With Compliments on INDIA'S Republic Day From

KAWAR Drug Store

CONGRATULATIONS

to the Indian embassy

On the occasion of India's Republic Day

We extend our best wishes for continued progress and prosperity to the friendly people and government of India.

Jordan Company for Supplies M. Taweel ★ S. Shreim







ON THE OCCASION OF THE REPUBLIC DAY OF INDIA



INDO - JORDAN CHEMICALS CO. LTD. (A JOINT VENTURE OF SPIC-INDIA & JPMC-JORDAN)

CONVEYS ITS FELICITATIONS AND CORDIAL WISHES TO THE PEOPLE OF INDIA

economic accord

.CAIRO (Agencies) — Egypt and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) signed an economic cooperation agree-ment Monday to ease trade, investment and joint projects with the future self-ruled Palestinian areas of the West

Bank and Gaza Strip.
The PLO signed a similar agreement with Jordan last month after criticism there and other neighbouring states that PLO leader Yasser Arafat's steps to reach peace with Israel could harm the economies of Arab states.

The agreement was signed shortly before Mr. Arafat arrived in Cairo to be briefed on Foreign Minister Amr Musa's visit to Israel on Monday to push forward Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

. Mr. Musa and his Palestinian counterpart. Farouk Kaddoumi, signed the agreement. which calls for economic cooperation in the fields of industry, agriculture, investment, tourism, technology, health and education.

Egypt, whose economy is shadly in need of a boost, wants to play a role in the many development projects which are expected to take place in Gaza and the Jericho area of the West Bank once Israel withdraws from the two re-

The agreement says Egypt will help in infrastructure projects and a study wil be conducted on a free trade zone on the Gaza-Egyptian border. It

FEL AVIV (AP) — Mas-suchusetts Governor William

Welld announced Tuesday

that two Massachusetts phar-

macological companies. Gen-

zyme and Odyssey therapeu-

tics, would open offices in

gioù as a result.

opens the way for Egyptian banks to operate in the Palesti-nian area and for concessions to ease the movement of com-

modities to and from Egypt.

Mr. Kaddoumi, head of the
PLO's Political Department, told reporters at the signing that the agreement was similar to one the PLO has signed with Jordan.
The most specific provisions

The Egytians and the Palestinians will give each other most favoured nation status in trade.

 Commercial transactions between them will be paid for in convertible currencies. To qualify as locally

manufactured, products they want to export to each other must have a local production cost content of at least 40 per cent, either in the form of labour or raw materials.

- They will study the possibility of setting up a "free zone" in rafah, on the border between Egypt and the Gaza Strip, for trade, industry and investment.

- They will coordinate on any projects that may have a regional dimension, such as power stations, roads, telecommunications and water desalination.

— The Palestinians will make it easy for Egyptian banks and other financial institutions to set up branches in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and the Egyptians will recipro-

Egypt, PLO sign | Algerian talks open amid confusion

ALGIERS (Agencies) — The Algerian government launched a national conference Tuesday aimed at finding a political settlement to fundamentalist violence, but most political parties stayed away from the

parties stayed away from the meeting.

Five of the country's six main political parties refused to attend the two-day conference, and another grouping, the National Constitutional Rally (RNC), walked out of Tuesday's opening session, saying it saw "no point" in taking part taking part.

The parties principal con-cern was the absence at the of the outlawed Isla mic Salvation Front (FIS), whose suppression early in 1992 has led to a fundamentalist guerrilla war which has cost

idency, Ali Kafi, under tight security at the Club des Pine. about 30 kilometres from the

The closed door discussions were being attended mainly by government workers, repre-. sentatives of the main union federations and the national organisation of veterans of Algeria's independence war against France, won in 1962. support for the conference, the government Tuesday cut back its goals for the meeting, which was originally to have chosen an Algerian president and two vice-presidents to replace the current High State Council, or

A new plan put to the conference by organisers Tuesday said that the new leadership should rather be chosen by the high Security Council, a milit-

The move led the only Muslim movement willing to participate, the Movement for Islamic Society (MSI-Hamas), to threaten to quit the meeting. Further confusion was sown

more than 3,000 lives. The meeting was opened by

the head of the collegiate pres-

Faced with the lack of broad collegiate presidency, whose mandate expires on Jan. 31.

ary-dominated body.

when the government's even-

day warned that time had all

but run out for the conserva-

tive Freedom Alliance to re-

join South Africa's democracy

process before non-racial elec-

"If agreement is reached to-

day, a parliamentary session remains a possibility." Mr. De

Klerk said, referring to the session that would have to

ratify changes to the new con-

stitution which will come into

"But agreement must be

and the alliance were meeting

for after the election.

tions on April 27.

of Nations, where an Algerian national conferthe high-powered four-man team from the banner FIS, led by the movement's national spokesman Abdul Kadar

This report named the delegation and said that its three other members had been temporarily freed from prison with a mandate to participate from top FIS leader Abassi Madani. serving a jail term for state security offences.

The main exiled leader of the FIS, Rabah Kebir, said in Germany Tuesday that reports that his movement was attending the meeting were "pure lies."



ence aimed at ending two years of militant violence opened Tuesday (AFP photo)

Hachani, was attending the

But the report was swiftly denied by the head of the commission set up to organise the conference. Yousef Khatib. Well-informed sources had reported last-ditch "contacts" between his team and figures close to the FIS, but officials had refused to confirm them.

But another senior Algerian

official said the banned front has accepted the principle of dialogue with the authorities. 'Regarding the 'Islamic sen-

sibility ... the commission has registered its acceptance of dialogue as a principle and a political step." Mr. Abdul Kader Bensalem told a news conference. Algeria's authorities gener-

ally refer to the Islamic Salva-tion Front FIS as "the Islamic sensibility. Mr. Bensalem is spokesman for the National Dialogue Commission. The four purported FIS de-

legates were not seen by journalists covering the opening

Though five of the six biggest legal political parties boycotted the conference, delegates were sent by labour unions, professinal groups and civic associations, as well as dozens of minor political parties. The conference is intended to establish a transitional government that would guide Algeria towards elec-

The ruling council is scheduled to cede power next Monday to a new president to beselected by the national conference. The president would overseee a transitional government that would set the stage for presidential and legislative elections in three years.

Preparations for the conference were marred by debate about whether FIS supporters should be allowed to partici-

As the date for the conference approached, one after another of the main legal parties decided not to participate, including the National Liberation Front, Algeria's former ruling party.

Of the six non-fundamentalist parties that received more than 100,000 votes in the last elections, only the moderate movement for an Islamic society was represented at the con-

items met specifications and standards were being con-

According to the documents, she also pointed out that tests on whether food ducted at the Ministry of Trade and Industry, which set those specification something which

she described as unacceptable. The minister released funds for refurbishing the Incoratories and documents and the sources revealed that the situa-

tion there had improved. But in February 1990, the director of the laboratory was removed from her post and transferred to the department of pharmacy and drug control where she was to work as a pharmacist.

The decision was taken by a new minister of health who took over in a cabinet reshuffle

in early 1990. The director sued the Ministry of Health on the grounds that her transfer was "a puni-tive measure," according to the documents. But the Higher Court of Justice rejected the

case ruling that it did not fall within its jurisdiction. According to the docu-ments, the director of the laboratories had said the decision to transfer her was made at the prompting of people who opposed her measure to have the laboratories run

according to regulations. An Arabic language weekly Thursday raised public concern about the efficiency of measures taken to ensure the safety of food and medicine when it quoted Minister of Health Abdul Rahim Malhas as saying that a "good quantity of food and medicine that reaches the market is unfit (for human consumption).

Dr. Malhas told the Jordan Times Friday that there was a deficiency in the laws governing the sale of food and drugs in the market. He said some drug and food importers were violating the few existing laws that regulate the distribution and sale of food and medi-

Sources told the Jordan Times Monday that samples of medicines that used to he submitted to the pharmacy and drug control department before October for testing and registration were not recorded

Violations date back to years (Continued from page 1)

and their whereabouts could equipped to conduct many of the tests required by regula-

not be accounted for.
The sources also said that some records were also missing from the department. Acting Prime Minister Ma'n

Abu Nowar Tuesday said the government was forming two committees to investigate the

minister's charge (see separate story).

The Lower House of Parliament is today scheduled to set a date for a session during which the government would explain its policies on food and

medicine and the steps it would take in light of Dr. Malhas's comments. A statement issued by the

spokesman and deputies of parliamentary blocs and committees said deputies would propose appropriate solutions to what they described as a

"serious situation." His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday proposed the formation of a committee to investi-

gate the charges raised by Dr. Malhas. No information could be

obtained on the situation at the central laboratories now. But sources say that two important tests to determine the safety of milk, meat and poultry are still not conducted in the Kingdom. Sources say that no hormone

tests are conducted on meat and poultry and no antibiotictests are done on milk. The tests would serve to determine whether meat, poultry or milk could still have traces of hormones or antibiotics that may have been injected to the animals.

One pharmacologist who conducted studies on hormones injected to animals said the hormones test was an important test that should be conducted on food before it was declared safe.

The law stipulates that no food items should be sold on the market before the Ministry of Health and other government departments certify that they are fit for human consumption.

But sources told the Jordan Times that the tests required todetermine whether food items are fit for consumption or not are conducted by various government ministries and departments. leading to gaps and loopholes as well as ineffi-

was about to quit the negotia-

'Nothing less than full Golan' (Continued from page 1)

90-minute meeting expressing condolences to Mr. Allaf for the death of President Assad's son Basel, who was killed last Friday in a car crash in Damascus.

Separate meetings at undisclosed locations were held with Palestinian and Lebanese

Although the site was not announced, officials said Monday's talks were held about 1.5 kilometres north of the State

Department in a hotel district. Acting State Department spokesman Christine Shelly said the new format enables the parties to "probe each other's ideas in a very relaxed kind of way. She also indicated that the

administration wanted to keep the talks as private as possible. We have felt that they would be most productive if the emphasis was on making

progress and not just on making publicity." she said.

Israel, saying the companies hoped to reach the wider re-"We're delighted to be the first through the doors of peace. Mr. Weld told reportiers. This demonstrates comtrade between Massachusetts and Israel and the advantages of having a trade office in

Presidem."

Weld, who opened the Massachusetts trade office in Jerusalem during a Aug.-Sep. 1992 visit, is leading a delegation of 50 businessmen and women as well as technical experts. He said the office had increased Israel-Massachusetts trade by 16 per cent since it

Two Massachusetts firms

to open offices in Israel

was opened. Odvssey therapeutics will sponsor research on the aging process and immune deficiency at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and at Bar Ilan

University in Tel Aviv, and will market menopause treatment products manufactured by the Israeli firm Bioresearch in Massachusetts, said company president Michael Osband.

ments for gaucher, a disease mainly afflicting Jews, said Genzyme representative Zeev Zelig. The treatment's use of the ceradase enzyme markedly turns around those sufferers from the debilitating disease. which causes bones to become

ing paper. Al Masaa, said that Genzyme sees Israel as a nutural market for its treat-PRETORIA (AFP) — President Frederik de Klerk Tues-

Mr. Weld's delegation, which represents 22 companies involved in construction, tourism, telecommunications and information technology, discussed investment opportunities Monday with Palestinian businessmen and leaders in the occupied territories in the wake of the proposed Palesti-

reached now, otherwise it will be too late." he told a media nian autonomy. "They understood the need briefing here. for institutions that will de-The government, the Afrivelop the economy," Mr. Weld can National Congress (ANC)

De Klerk: Time short for Freedom Alliance here again Tuesday in a final bid to reach a constitutional pact after marathon talks through the night Monday en-

ded in deadlock. Government and ANC negotiations were gloomy ahead of the meeting Tuesday. with chief government nego tiator Roelf Meyer saying in a radio interview that he was not

hopeful of a breakthrough. He said Tuesday was the final deadline for an agreement on issues which necessitated changes to the interim constitution agreed to be democracy negotiators and approved by

parliament in December.

The alliance, comprising the

Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom

Party (IFP), the Bophuthats-

wana black homeland and the

white right-wing Afrikaner Volksfront (AVF), wants federal guarantees entrenched in the new constitution to take effect after the April poll. Under the election act, Mr.

but under special circumst-'ances he can delay the proclamation for 30 days. Once the proclamation has been issued, however, no further changes can be made to the constitution.

De Klerk has to proclaim the April 27 poll by Wednesday,

Klerk held out the possibility that even if the alliance was not brought back on board before the poll, "we can continue negotiating after the election." Responding to media spe-

culation here that the alliance

At the briefing, Mr. De

tions altogether, Mr. De Klerk said that "it will be a pity" if they did.
"For any party to boycott a free and democratic process

seems an unwise path to take." Mr. De Klerk said. "Boycotting is an alien method for any party to use." aThe alliance has so far boycotted the transitionala structures set up to oversee government in the run-up to

the election and has not com-

mitted itself to contesting the election. ANC negotiator Cyril Ramaphosa was also gloomy. "I have very little hope at this point in time that there will be an agreement," he told domestic news agency SAPA.



FAO warns of food shortages in Africa

ROME (R) — Jacques Diouf, head of the U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), said Monday some 15 African nations faced critical food shortages because of civil conflict and bad environmental conditions. Mr. Diouf, from Senegal and the first African director-general of the U.N.'s food aid arm, added in a statement he was committed to increasing food production in the weakest parts of the world. Twenty-eight countries, 15 of them in Africa, face critical shortages due to civil conflicts and adverse conditions," Mr. Diouf said, "It is an absolute priority for the FAO to aid and increase production in these weak areas." Mr. Diouf issued his statement as the FAO's World Food Programme (WFP) approved \$84.6 million in food and air for Angola and \$35 million in emergency relief supplies for some 2.3 million

MAN FINANCIAL MARKET



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MARK OF JORDAN	223,550	7.913	7.920	8.QDD
MINGLE SAFT INVESTMENT AND	19,171	4.900	4.870	4.420
DOMETRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	7.248	2-100	210	2.100
THE ROUSING BANK	0,234	3.110	3.220	3.110
MORDAN KUNGAIT BANY	103.4.3	6.330	6.370	6-430
BORDAN GULF BANK	714 707	2.200	3.235	3.730
ANNE JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK	3 465	4 305	4 100	4 14.5
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BOST STEAM TANKS	87.564	4.500	4.580	4.180
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aiggui Baug, fóir investacht	107.505	1.490	643	2.015
ARAS SANKING CORPORATION/JORDAN	7.205	4.850	4.710	5.000
PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK.	19.974	7 450	2.440	2.440
JORDAN TRENCH TRECOLUNCE	11.199	3.680	3.670	3.660
al-sisk al-arabi (methance	242	4.850	4.850	4.850
JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER	164.107	2.430	2.432	2.445
ARAE INTERPATIONAL MOTELS	7,261	4.940	5.600	4.980
JORDAN MATIOMAL SHIPPING LINES	6.450	2.140	2.150	2.150
JORDAN TOURISM & SPA COMPLEX	:.396	0.630	0.870	0.890
KATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	30, 438	4.063	4.050	4.060
JORDAN THTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTED	984	1.710	1.640	1.440
JORDAN PRESS POSMOATION / ALRAY:	12,595	23.709	23.650	:3.400
MITTED MIDDLE EAST & COMMODORE HOTELS	2),626	3.279	2.276	2.200
MUNE INTER. FOR INVESTMENT L EDUCATION	17,397).440	3.450	3.440
ATTAMBLE COMST. MATERIAL MANUFACTURING	86	1.730	723	1.720
THE JURDAY CEMENT PACTORIES	74,555	3.096	3.070	3.090
JORDAN PETROLEUM REFIYARY	14,795	10.463	:3.55C	15.450
JOHNAF TARRING	:,490	7.400	7.4%	7.450
THE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & ACRICULTURAL	9,090	7.480	7.410	7.350
STIN CALSTON MYCHOL SKI	386.68D	12.500	12.930	12.350
ARAB PHARMACRUTICAL MARUYACTURING	220,137	9.14D	8.210	8.160
JORDAN DAIRY	21,038	3.100	3.150	3-150
PERSONAL PROPERTY CONSTRUCTOR: 52	1.395	4.600	4.600	4.700
SPIRRIES - MENAING	11,766	2.865	2.790	2.770
JORDAN CLASS INDUSTRIES	5,980	0.373	0.370	B. 360
DAR AL DAMA DEVELOPMENT (INTESTMENT	31,405	17.056	17.000	16.850
ARAB ISVESTREET & ISERBATIONAL TRADE	1,195	2.370	2.390	2.390
AFAS ALUMINIUM IMDUSTRY	38,670	10.170	10.700	10.150
SORDAN PEDICAL CORPORATION	613	0-360	0.390	D.3BD
MATIONAL STEEL INDUSTRY	161,138	5.103	5.400	5.350
INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHENICAL INCUSTRIES	1.425	3.550	3.510	3.560
TURDAF MUCKMOOL INDUSTRIES	7,270	2.160	2.160	2-160
DEIVERSAL CHRAICAL INDUSTRIES	1,503	7 693	7.500	7.500
ALADDIF IMBOSTRIËS	2,447	4.940	4.580	4.900
JORDAN INDUSTRIES & NATCH/JIKCO	:3,992	1.210	1.320	1.220
MATTOMAL CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING	42,479	7.050	7.600	7.800
JORDAN SULPHO-CHEKICALE	675	3.5:0	3.500	3.500
arab center for Pharm. 4 Checicals	15,477	3.360	3.360	3.360
JORDAN KUNAIT CO. FOR AGE!. 4 POOD PROD.	2,107	1.200	1 270	1.280
DRIVERSAL MCCERUK INDUSTRIES	155,04D	5.870	5.140	5.890
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GRAND TOTAL			•	9
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Financial Markets

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Jordan Times





Eurocurrency Interest Ra	Date: 25/1/1994.			
Currency 515	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar qu. 197	3.00	3.12	.13.25	3.62
Sterling Pound	5.43	5.31	5.25	5.18
Deutsche Mark	6.00	5.81	5.56	5.31
Swiss Franc	4.06	3.93	3_75	3.46
French Franc	6.50	6.18	6.00	5.43
Japanese Yen	2.21	2.04	1.96	1.84
European Currency Unit	6.62	6.38	6.13	5.68

Precious Metals				Date: 25/1/1994	
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm*	Metal	USD/O2	JD/Gm
Gold	383.25	7.50	Silver	5.16	0.115

ľ	Central Bank of Jordan I	Exchange	Race	Rulletin	
		-			25/1/1994

Ситевсу	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.7050	0.7070
Sterling Pound	1.0525	1.0578
Deutsche Mark	e.402 <u>0</u>	0.4040
Swiss Franc	0.4792	0.4816
French Franc	0.1184	0.1190
Japanese Yen	0.6313	0.6345
Dutch Guilder	0.3587	0.3605
Swedish Krona	*****	*****
Italian Lira	0.0413	0.0415
Belgian Franc	204224	402000

Other Currencies	Date: 25/1/1994		
Сигтепсу	Bid	Offer	
Bahraini Dinar	1.8500	1.8650	
Lebanese Lira ¹	0.040675	0.041785	
Saudi Riyal	0.1877	0.1885	
Kowaiti Dinar	2.3500	2.3650	
Qatari Riyal	0.1914	0.1923	
Egyptian Pound	0.2050	Q_2200	
Omani Riyal	1.8000	1.5240	
UAE Dirham	0.1914	0.1923	
Greek Drachma*	0.2655	0.3125	
Cypriot Pound	1.3275	1.3635	

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

7.526/31

2.11	\$1.00 costs	1.31/32
U.Ş.	31.00 CO3W	1,7524/34
		1.9630/40
		1.4722/32
		1.4/22/32
•		36.30/34
		5.9425/75
		1702.3/3.8
		111.28/38
		8.0411/11
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Canadian dollar Deutschemarks Dutch guilders Swiss francs Belgian francs French francs Italian lire Japanese yen Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns Danish crowns

6.7980/30 \$1.4930/40 One sterling \$382.90/383.30 One ounce of gold

Traders see \$10 oil price if OPEC fails to cut output

U.N. report says oil reserves could last 75 years

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The world's remaining oil will last 75 years, according to one estimate in a U.N. report released Tuesday.

But the report said the more energy resources the world consumed, the more reserves were often being found, mostly due to new exploration technologies.

The report, analysing changing global energy patterns, said according to this estimate, which was based on the 1991 production rate of 21.9 billion barrels, the amount of oil the

world has produced so far totals 640.7 billion barrels.
"Remaining oil is 1,650.6 billion barrels, consisting of 976.5 billion barrels of proved reserves and 674 billion barrels of probable reserves additions. At the rate of world oil prodution in 1991 of 21.9 billion barrels, the world's remaining oil is adequate for 75 years," it

have been expressed about whether commercial energy reserves and resources are enough to meet future demand.

Those concerns were based on energy shortages caused by war, embargoes, political in-stability and the exhaustion of what were once prolific deposits as well as the perception that reserves and resources were finite.

"Yet, paradoxically, the more energy the world consumes, the more energy reserves, more often than not, are found. This has been the case in the past 20 to 25 years with regard to all energy reserves, but more so with respect to oil which has given rise to most concerns," it said.

"The main reason for this fortunate state of affairs is the veritable explosion in new petroleum technologies which have opened up vast frontier

areas of petroleum potential in deserts, jungles, the Arctic and, most importantly. offshore," it pointed out. Before 1970, there was hardly any oil production offshore while today about one-third of world oil production came from offshore fields being progressively developed at deeper

depths, the report said. Referring to one technique it said: "It has been reported that the pay-off from horizontal drilling in the United States could be at least several billion barrels of oil added to production in the next 15 to 20 years."

Indeed, drillers in south Texas have made large profits, even with oil prices below \$17 barrel, because horizontal drilling has slashed drilling costs from \$12 to \$4 a barrel, it explained. "Averaging about \$1 million, a horizontal well is twice as costly as a vertical well, but some production rates have been four or five times as great and drilling costs are often recovered within a year." Because of the improving ability to identify and extract oil, the amount of recoverable reserves barely slipped in the United States in the 1980s, the report continued.

"The number has remained fairly steady even though the United States is pumping about three billion barrels of oil a year and even though the amount discovered annually in previously unexplored areas has dropped 30 per cent from peaks in the early 1980s to well below one billion barrels a

"With gains in technology, some experts say the recovery rate for proved reserves can rise to one of every two discovered barrels — enough to more than double the supplies once expected to run out within 60 years or so. The industry has recovered an average of domestic reserves in recent vears." it said.

Meanwhile, European oil traders said Tuesday that prices for the world benchmark Brent Blend of crude oil could fall to \$10 per barrel if OPEC fails to cut production soon.

Prices came under pressure Monday on a report by indus-try newsletter Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) that Saudi Arabia and Gulf allies taking such a tough stance that it is not guaranteed that they would cut production in the second quarter.

The Organisation of Pet-roleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) meets on March 25 to consider new output quotas for the April-June period when oil demand dips to its seasonal

OPEC failure to cut its present ceilling of 24.52 million barrels per day (b/d) at that

meeting would be "disastrous" for already-weak prices, a European trader said.

Brent Blend fell by some \$5.0 per barrel in 1993 and is now trading around \$14. OPEC's own target is to have prices in a range from \$18 to

"The market will come of quickly. OPEC needs to cut a least 1.5 to 2.0 million b/d to change this downward trend. the European trader said. "It looks like a rerun of 1986

when we saw oil below \$10 We could see Brent at 10,7 said a trader in Atlantic basir

He and others pointed to high stocks of petrol on both sides of the Atlantic heading into the northern hemisphere summer driving season as well as less chance for winter-related supply disruptions which have supported prices lately.

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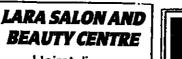
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Jackson near

accusations of Jackson's camp

that he tried to extort \$20

million from the pop star in

exchange for his son's silence.

The agreement would call for

Jackson to pay the boy an "eight-figure" settlement,

more than \$10 million, in re-

turn for dropping the suit, the

Los Angeles Times reported, citing sources close to the negotiations. The highly publicised case appeared head for

an out-of-court settlement de-

spite Jackson's impassioned

vow to defend himself and

clear his name. The 35-year-

old singer has maintained his

innocence, saying he was vic-tim of a failed extortion plot

orchestrated by the boy's

father, a wealthy Beverly Hills

Communion nearly

LONDON (R) — Communion

nearly became the last supper for English Vicar Brian Leath-

ley and 12 worshippers when

they drank from a contamin-

ated chalice, Today newspaper

reported Tuesday. It said they

all suffered stomach upsets

after drinking wine from the

chalice at the Anglican Church

in Kingsclere, southern Eng-

land, which was found to contain lamp oil. Rev. Leathley,

who suffered the worst because

he finished off the dregs at the

end of the service, said he had

spent many hours in the toilet

afterwards, "It was serious, I

certainly did not suffer from

constipation and spent many

periods of mediation in the

smallest room in the house,"

he told Today, "Somehow the

water cruet was filled with

lamp oil which was meant for

the altar candles. The oil got

into the wine instead of the

water. It was a genuine mis-

the last supper

at British church

Clinton nominates **Perry for** defence post

WASHINGTON (Agencies) - President Bill Clinton nominated Deputy Defence Secretary William Perry Monday as the new replacement for Defence Secretary Les Aspin but only after Mr. Perry over-came objections from his fami-

ly to taking the job.
In picking Mr. Perry for the position, Mr. Clinton hoped he had ended a troubled search for a defence nominee a week after former Deputy CIA Director Bobby Ray Imman withdrew from consideration with a diatribe against the

Washington political culture. Reflecting the difficulties Mr. Clinton has had filling the position, the 66-year-old Perry made the unusual disclosure at his appouncement ceremony that he at one point rejected the job because his family did not want him to take it.

He said he left a meeting with Mr. Clinton Friday "fully prepared to take on the job but talked to members of his family about it that night and informed the White House Saturday that if he "had to accept the job at that time, my answer would have to be no.

Vice President Al Gore told him to take more time to think about it and talk to his family. By Sunday, "I called the vice-president back and said, 'if you still want me for your secretary of defence. I'm eager to serve," Mr. Perry said.

"I did not want to drive my family into my decision without their support, and so I wanted to wait until I had their full support for it," said Mr. Perry. He and his wife, Lee, have five grown children, three sons and two daughters.

White House officials went into damage control shortly after the announcement ceremony, telling reporters Mr. Perry had always wanted the job but he had to talk to each of his children about it and it took time to track them down, since two are in California, one in New York, and two in Washington.

"He never said, 'I don't want to take this job."' said a senior Pentagon official who briefed reporters at the White House. "He kept on saying, "I want my family to be comfortable.'

Family members felt "life was simpler" without Mr. Perry in the top job and worried about the time and energy he would have to devote to it, the

Ultimately Mr. Perry answered these concerns, and it was not until Monday morning that Mr. Clinton officially extended the job offer to him, White House officials said.

A bemused but relieved Clinton insisted he did not have trouble finding a replacement for Mr. Aspin, even though he admitted earlier in the day he had sounded out Georgia Democrat Sam Nunn, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, to see if he wanted it and was told no.

"We had a very short list, and I quickly narrowed it to one. I had an interview with one person. I asked him if he'd take the job, and he did. I don't think that qualifies as difficult. Now, I have had some difficult positions to fill, this one wasn't," Mr. Clinton

Meanwhile Mr. Aspin said the U.S. military reserve forces of the future will be restructured to be leaner, more flexi-ble and mobile and 'will play a crucial role" in responding to regional crises and in meeting expanded "challenges of the post-cold war world."

In a Jan. 24 address to the Reserve Officers Association (ROA), Mr. Aspin also praised the reserve forces' peacekeeping and humanita-rian efforts in Somalia and Bosnia-Herzegovina and their contributions enforcing the nofly zone in southern Iraq.

As a continuing world power, the secretary said, the United States needs "to be able to respond, anywhere in the world because we don't know when the problem will arise." Mr. Aspin told the ROA's annual conference in Washington that reserve forces will be called upon on the future "to respond

more often and more quickly." The secretary noted that U.S. Air Force reserve units will be deployed overseas occasionally for short tours as a way in reduce the burden on the active air force. Interceptor squadrons and aircraft normally assigned to defend U.S. air space will be reduced and greater emphasis placed on aerial refueling.

France pledges new ideas to break Bosnian deadlock

promised to put forward new ideas to help end bloodshed in Bosnia after Washington spurned Paris' proposal for major powers to impose a peace settlement on warring factions.

President François Mitterrand told U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher in Paris Monday that "French proposals would very soon be put on the table," perhaps this week, the spokesman for the president's office, Jean Musitelli, said.

He did not give any details regarding the proposals.
The new French initiative would follow Paris' failure to

win U.S. support for a proposed allied move to force the hands of Bosnian Muslims. Croats and Serbs.

The New York Times in its Tuesday editions said Foreign

Minister Juppe said in an interview Monday evening that he had appealed openly to Secretary of State Warren Christopher to have the United States pressure the Bosnian Muslims to accept a European peace plan dividing Bosnia and Herzegovina along ethnic

Mr. Juppe said that Mr. Christopher had rejected the idea outright, the paper said. In the interview, the paper said, Mr. Juppe charged that the United States was content to let the 21-month war drag on and did not realise the consequences of its refusal to play an active diplomatic role n helping end it.

"I told the secretary that the humanitarian track is not enough," it quoted Mr. Juppe

as saying.
"If the Americans do not convince the Bosnian Muslims that they must stop fighting and that there is no chance that the United States would come to their rescue, then the United States will give them in-centives to pursue the fighting on the ground," Mr. Juppe said in the New York times

"It would be a catastrophe. And we say to our American friends that they will be responsible for this," he said.

"I don't think the international community has the capacity to stop people within that nation from their civil war until they decide to do it." the president told a questioner during a photo session in Washington.

"There are things we can do to retard it, to keep it within bounds, to keep it within humanitarian limits, and I

NEWS IN BRIEF

GENEVA (AFP) - The 39-nation U.N. Conference on

Disarmament opened here Tuesday with French Ambassador Gerard Errera denouncing North Korea's refusal to allow international inspections of its nuclear sites. Mr. Errera,

chairman of the conference, said Pyongyang's refusal cannot

be "treated as only a regional issue." He said the world's

major nuclear powers - the United States, Russia, France,

Britain and China - could not "accept to impose nuclear

constraints on themselves if other countries continue to

secretly develop nuclear weapons programmes." North Korea

suspended inspection of its nuclear sites by the International

Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in January 1993 and three months later threatened to pull-out of the nuclear Non-

Proliferation Treaty, sparking fears that it was developing or had already developed a nuclear bomb. The U.N. conference

here, aimed at securing pledges from the nuclear powers for a

comprehensive test ban treaty (CTBT), is to set up an ad-hoc

Poll: Clinton liked by 60% of Americans

WASHINGTON (AFP) - President Bill Chaton: a year into

his mandate, has left a favourable impression on 60 per cent of

Americans, mainly for his handling of the economy and

foreign policy, according to Washington Post-ABC News poll published Tuesday. On the down side, however, slightly more

than 50 per cent felt Mr. Clinton had done not much or very

little in his first year in office, and 46 per cent felt he did not

keep his major campaign promises. The poll, concluded

Sunday and published Tuesday by the daily, was not so

flattering for Congress, which got a 29 per cent approval

rating. Mr. Clinton is to give his state of the union address at

9:00 p.m. (0200 GMT) Tuesday before a joint session of

Congress, which reconvenes after a two-month winter break.

The survey of 1,507 adults found that 60 per cent had a

favourable impression of Mr. Clinton, and 55 per cent had a

favourable impression of his wife, Hillary. By comparison,

Mr. Clinton's political rivals, Senate minority leader Robert

Dole and billionaire and former presidential candidate Ross

Perot, got much lower favourable scores of 38 and 32 per cent

Former Greek bank boss dies after attack

ATHENS (R) — The former chairman of Greece's largest

commercial bank died in hospital Monday after a guerrilla shot

him four times at close range. A hospital spokesman announced Mihalis Vranopoulos's death shortly after the

left-wing November 17 guerrilla group said it shot the former

banker because of his role in the purchase of a state-owned

cement company in 1992. Mr. Vranopoulos died 12 hours after

the shooting. He was hit while walking to work in central

Athens Monday morning. Bullets from a .45 calibre semi-

automatic pistol ripped through his pancreas, liver, colon and kidney. Doctors operated on Mr. Vranopoulos for more than

six hours to try to save his life. November 17 sent a statement

to the private Skai Television Station, saying it shot Mr. Vranopoulos for "high treason" in the purchase of Heracles General Cement Company. Mr. Vranopoulos, 48, was the chairman of the state-run National Bank of Greece when it

teamed up with Italy's Calcestruzzi and bought 70 per cent of Heracles for \$225 million.

KOUROU, French Guiana (R) — Two French-made satel-

lites worth over \$250 million were lost after the third stage of

Western Europe's Ariane rocket abruptly shut down following

its launch from French Guiana, officials said. "The third stage

stopped working... we cannot give further information at this juncture," Arianespace President Charles Bigot told reporters. He said investigators would seek to determine the cause

of the failure. A news conference was to be held in Kourou at

10:00 a.m. (1300 GMT) Tuesday. The Ariane 44LP rocket lifted off at 6:37 p.m. (2137 GMT). Space officials said the third stage functioned for at least one minute. The rocket,

Western Europe's 63rd Ariane, was carrying Turkey's first national satellite Turksat 1 and Eutelsat 2 F-5 for the European Telecommunications Satellite Organisation.

Mehmet Kostepen, Turkey's minister of communication and transport, said the cost of the Turksat programme — two

satellites and launches, two ground stations and insurance was

\$315 million. The second Turksat satellite was scheduled for

HONG KONG (AFP) - Ten seamen died when their

Shanghai-bound tanker split in two and caught fire in a storm

on the South China Sea Tuesday, search and rescue officials in

Hong Kong said Tuesday. The wreck of the 23,000-tonne

Cosmas A was spilling its cargo of Indonesian crude oil. but

pilots overflying the scene said high seas and strong winds

were breaking up the slick. "The bow part has been burned

out, and the stern is still burning," said a spokesman for Hong Kong's Marine Rescue Coordination Centre. Twenty-four

others survived the disaster, and were due to arrive in Ho Chi

Minh City Thursday on the container ship Ratana Manee, which rescued them, the spokesman said. One seaman, from

Greece, was confirmed dead after the Cosmas A caught fire about 200 kilometres off the northwest corner of the main

launch by an Ariane rocket later this year.

10 die in China Sea ship blaze

Philippine island of Luzon.

2 satellites lost in Ariane failure

committee to negotiate the treaty.

Disarmament conference opens

wouldn't rule out any of those options." he said. "But there has been no decision by anyone to enter that war on the side of one of the combatants, which is what some would like. They're going to have to make up their own minds to quit killing each other."

Mr. Clinton said his belief that the parties have it in their power to stop the killing has not change. "I believe in general what I've always believed." the president de-clared. There's not going to be a settlement in Bosnia until the sides decide they have more to gain from signing a peace agreement than by continuing the fighting."

The killing, he said, "is a function of a political fight" among the three factions and will not stop until participants decide they have more to gain from diplomacy than from

The president suggested that neither the North Atlantic Council — the top political leadership of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation - nor United Nations Secretary General Boutros Ghali has any desire to use NATO air power, even in the circumscribed parametres outlined in last year's Athens Declaration and reaf-

Hosokawa wins breather

TOKYO (R) -- Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, waging a steep uphill battle to save his plan to clean up Japan's rampant political corruption, persuaded a grudging opposi-tion Tuesday to discuss a last-

group alliance are struggling to survive the toughest test of their five-month rule — pas-sage of reform bills aimed at the first radical overhaul of the discredited political and elec-

The reform package, rejected by the upper house last Friday, will expire if it is not enacted by Saturday; when the current parliamentary session ends. Mr. Hosokawa would then face pressure to resign or call elections.

On Tuesday, the governing coalition and the main opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) decided to set up a special parliamentary panel Wednesday in a last-ditch bid to break a stalemate over the long-awaited political reform

But prospects for a deal looked slim, according to leaders of both the ruling coalition and the LDP.

"The LDP will try to cooperate in passing the reform bills but it won't be easy because we'll have to consider the views of our lawmakers," said Yoshiro Mori, LDP secretary-

Two-thirds of the joint panel, made up of 10 ruling and 10 opposition lawmakers from both parliamentary houses, must agree on a compromise plan, impossible with-

out the LDP's cooperation. vious to public opinion strong-ly in favour of political reform,

ditch compromise.

Mr. Hosokawa and his eighttoral systems since 1947.

The LDP, apparently obliis dominated by antireformers



summit on Jan. 11.

The president said he has not abandoned hope for a set-tlement, and he cited the changed situation on the battlefield as a possible sign that a peace agreement could be reached. Mr. Clinton pointed out that the Muslim government of Bosnia has apparently obtained arms, despite the U.N. embargo, so that "the circumstances on the battlefield are somewhat different than they have been for the previous 12 months.

News reports cite unfonfirmed reports that Bosnian Muslims in recent weeks have begun re-taking small amounts of previously Muslim territory overrun by Bosnian-Serb and Bosnian-Croat forces.

He said the Muslim government appears to be "most reluctant to sign a peace agree-ment at this time," but he suggested that with an accommodation "on access to the sea, protection of Sarajevo and the Muslim enclaves to the east, perhaps we could still get an agreement.

Meanwhile, Russia called Tuesday for a meeting of U.N. Security Council foreign ministers in an initiative on Bosnia presented as an alternative to air strikes against Serb targets. Deputy foreign Minister

Vitaly Churkin told a news conference that Russia proposed to urgently convene a Security Council meeting in level to press the warring sides to sign a deal on territorial

Mr. Churkin said Russia wanted U.N. secretary-geneal Ghali to prepare a detailed report on the situation in Bosnia to determine who was to blame for continuing blood-

He said Russia would also press for a Security Council resolution providing for strict observance of a ceasefire. security of aid convoys and strengthening U.N. "safe

"The utmost priority now is to divide political power terri-torially between Muslims, Serbs and Croats," Mr. Chur-Fighting continued in Bosnia

as Bosnian Croat forces launched an artillery and rocket attack on government-held territory in the southwest, apparently targeting a Muslim stronghold on a key supply road. U.N. officials said Tuesday.

U.N. military spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel bill Aikman said a "significant battle" flared after Croat separatist troops (HVO) surged out of the town of Prozor towards government-controlled Jabla-

nica Monday. Col. Aikman said HVO forces around Prozor bombarded central residential and More than 130 rockets from

HVO multi-barrelled laun-chers ploughed into Gomji Vakuf while artillery pounding of Jablanica confined the U.N. Spanish peacekeeping battal-tion there to bunkers. Col. Aikman said.

He also said Croat troops had stormed into a relatively undefended Muslim halmet called Here on front lines near Prozor, where Bosnian authorities had told the U.N. Protection Force that 25 civilians had been murdered.

"We are sending in U.N. observers this morning to veriffy the situation, try to find out what happened. The village is right on the confrontation line and fighting is still going on, so it will be difficult." Col. Aikman said. He emphasised that the massacre report was unconfirmed.

In a separate development, the British Aircraft carrier Ark Royal set sail Tuesday for the Adriatic Sea to support British troops in Bosnia, a Defence Ministry spokesman said.

The Ark Royal relieves its sister-ship Invincible, which is ending a six-month tour in the Adriatic, the spokesman said.

The carrier, which has 1,200 crew, is equipped with sea Harrier jump jets — capable of carrying out airstrikes and reoutlying frontline districts of connaissance — as Japhanica and the government of Kingi helicopters. connaissance — as well as Sea

Driving rain batters L.A. quake victims

LOS ANGELES (R) - Driving rain Tuesday brought new misfortune to earthquake vic-tims living in makeshift shelters and army tents, causing further problems to damaged structures.

The rain began Monday night, with nearly an inch falling on the stricken area.

Victims housed in tent cities erected by the National Guard have been living outside their homes since last Monday when the earthquake, measuring 6.6 on the open-ended Richter Scale, struck before dawn. The tremor destroyed more

than 11,000 housing units, leaving 25,000 homeless. The quake killed 57 people and injured more than 8,000. Losses have been estimated at over \$30 billion, making the

quake the costliest natural disaster in U.S. history. Water and electricity have been restored to most residents

but aftershocks are still rolling through the area, keeping nerves on edge.

The tents, each capable of holding about 20 people, are not waterproof, and occasional leaks are causing discomfort. Stores ran out of plastic sheeting to cover holes knock-

ed out in homes by the tremor. The rain further snarled already nightmarish traffic. Highways and local streets have become virtual parking lots during commuter hours.

Many commuters opted to stay home last week to wait out the traffic jams or repair their homes. But by Monday, they undertook trips that lasted bours.

Yet, many residents who braved the commute wondered if drivers would be able to face lengthy delays for months to come. L.A.'s buckled freeways are expected to take up to a year to repair.

Amid the nightmarish freeway commutes were signs drivers were turning to public transportation. From hard hit Santa Clarita, commuter train ridership rose to 20,000 per day from 1,000 before the quake. Others were car pool-

ing. In an endeavour to keep life

normal, children were returning to classes Tuesday with assurances from authorities only safe buildings would be opened.

About 76 of the L.A.'s approximately 800 schools were damaged, affecting about 10 per cent of the district's

Parents were so fearful of being separated from their children that authorities offered counselling for mothers and fathers as well as

students. "Parents are still emotionaldistraught about being separated from the young child, or even an 18-year-old," School Board President Leticia

Quezada said on KCAL-TV. People who lost their jobs when small businesses closed because of earthquake damages have flocked to relief centres to apply for unemploy-

Federal Emergency Management Agency officials said about 40,000 people have applied for some form of finan-

Nude skiers get cold reception

VIENNA (AFP) — Five skiers who took to the slopes in the altogether in sub-zero temperatures caused havoc for several hours at a ski resort in the Austrian Tyrol, police said. Fellow skiers shocked by the nudists, all men, alerted the police after the group was seen testing the women's Olympic run. A policeman on duty set off in hot pursuit but was only able to arrest one of the party. The four others got away. The detainee, shivering from the cold or fear, refused to give the names of his fellow offenders. He faces a fine for indecent

Theatre tells audience: pay what you like

LEEDS, England (R) - Audiences at a locally produced version of the musical Gypsy are being asked by a provincial theatre to pay what they can afford to see the show. The West Yorkshire Playhouse in this northern English city told theatre goers to name their price for a night out. But it did set a minimum — 50 pence (75 cents) for students, the unemployed and children under 16.

Taiwan's Lorena **Bobbitt gets 2** years

TAIPEI (AFP) — Taiwan's version of the Lorenz Bobbitt crime went almost unnoticed with a woman in the central city of Taichung being sentenced to two years in fail for cutting off her husband's penis and killed him, the United Daily News said Tuesday. Chien Liu-Liang, 51, was less fortunate than her U.S. counterpart. She was convicted of cutting off the penis with a pair of scissors after learning that her husband was having affairs with other women, the paper

India proposes peace measures to Pakistan could afford a war.

NEW DELHI (Agencies) -India has offered a series of confidence-building measures. including a pledge that it will not be the first to make a nuclear strike, to ease acute tensions with old enemy Pakistan, officials said Tuesday.

They said the list of six proposals was handed to Pakistani High Commissioner (ambassador) Riaz Khokhar in New Delhi Monday, shortly before Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto made a blistering attack on India over disputed Kashmir.

Diplomats said the Indian proposals, apart from the nuclear offer, were a repetition of previous ones and were unlikely to improve relations that have gone from bad to worse since a rebellion erupted in Indian-ruled Kashmir four years ago.

"Bhutto's speech was clearly aimed at building up Kashmir as an international issue and indicated that she had no in-

under the feet of repression,"

Ms. Bhutto said in a televised

address to the nation, "God

willing, the day is not far off

tention of moving towards a deal with India at this stage," said one Western diplomat, who asked not to be identified. "Kashmir is Pakistan's jugular vein and we will not allow our jugular vein to be trampled

when Kashmir will be with us.' The Indian proposals contained no direct mention of Kashmir, a deeply emotive issue that has caused two of the three wars the neighbours have fought since independence from Britain in 1947.

They followed talks in Islamabad at the beginning of the year between the top diplomats of the two countries that promised a start towards peace talks but delivered nothing but a repetition of well-known

Pakistan said afterwards there was no point in further meetings until India halted its "repression" in the Kashmir Valley, the heartland of the rebellion in largely Hindu India's only Muslim-majority state. Police and hospitals have re-

ported more than 15,000 deaths in the rebellion and India has been widely accused of serious human rights abuses there. India denies most of the India accuses Pakistan of

arming and aiding the Kash-miri insurgents, which Islama-Senior officials on both sides

bad denies, and the rebellion has relentlessly pushed rela-tions downhill, with occasional fears the dispute might erupt into another war.

of the border dismiss such

fears, saying neither country

But some Western countries, including the United States, still worry that the dispute could erupt into conflict and, with both countries believed to be capable of constructing nuclear bombs quickly, that another war between them could go nuclear. There was no immediate

comment on India's six proposals from Islamabad but Pakistani diplomats were privately dismissive. "The less said about them the better," one said, The proposals included a military pullback from the dis-

puted Siachen Glacier in northern Kashmir, the world's highest battlefield, where more soldiers die of cold than builets. A deal on the issue fell apart in 1989. They also included offers to settle other border disputes,

turning the line dividing Indian Kashmir from the one-third of the Himalayan region ruled by Pakistan into a line of "peace and tranquillity" and reviving a joint working commission.

Indian officials were equally dismissive of Ms. Bhutto's speech, in which the Pakistani leader said she would personally present accusations of Indian abuses in Kashmir at next month's meeting of the United Nations Human Rights Commission in Geneva.

Meanwhile, Amnesty International has demanded the release of three Kashmir politicians jailed by Indian authorities, describing the detained men as "prisoners of conscien-

No specific charges have been brought against Syed Ali Shah Geelani, Abdul Gani Lone and Shabir Shah, detained in connection with a Muslim uprising in the troubled northern state, Amnesty said in a statement here Mon-

day.
The London-based human rights organisation said the three men should be set free. calling them "prisoners of con-

Mr. Geelani, Mr. Lone and Mr. Shah are militant-leaning politicians opposed to Indian rule over Kashmir, where more than 8,000 people have died in violence related to a bloody, four-year-old Muslim secessionist revolt.

Amnesty International also demanded that it be allowed to send a team to Kashmir to investigate alleged human rights abuses by Indian troops in their battle against insurgen-

The group has previously published a report alleging unnatural disappearances" of suspects and dissenters in the

settlement in sex-abuse suit LOS ANGELES (R) -Lawyers for Michael Jackson and the boy who has accused him of sexual molestation worked Monday to hammer out the final details in a settlement that would require the

singer to pay millions of dollars. A court hearing was scheduled for Tuesday in the 14year-old boy's civil suit against Jackson, raising widespread speculation that a settlement would be presented for a judge's approval. A source close to the case confirmed that attorneys were close to an agreement but said it may take longer to finalise it. Such a deal would cast doubt on the chances that prosecutors would go ahead with criminal charges against Jackson. In another blow to the embattled entertainer, prosecutors Monday cleared the boy's father of

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Stasi hunt could spoil German campaign again

gONN (R) — While the com-eback of Katarina Witt is sure to attract most Germans' el Jackson attention at the Winter Olymas accused pies, the hunt for sporting spies olestation from her former East German homeland is in danger of flaring up again after the scandal equire the at the Albertville games two

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years ago. Bob pilot Haral Czudaj was the victim of 1992. Czudai's admissions that he was blackmailed into working for the hated Stasi state security police overshadowed the Germans' triumphs as the top medalwinning nation.

Spying allegations involving former Olympic bob champion Wolfgang Hoppe have already dominated the German team's build-up to Lillehammer.

Officials know there is a nal charges n another serious risk that embittered East Germans, determined to expose anyone who passed on information to the Stasi, could name more sports stars as Stasi exton 230 exton 530 "grasses" (informers) during the games to gain the maximum publicity.

German Olympic chief Walther Troeger has told com-petitors from the former GDR to examine their relationship with Stasi agents, who watched every sport carefully, and see whether anything has been written in Stasi files incriminat-

Troeger is determined to clear the air on the subject before the Olympics start. "I will do everything I can to make sure we have peace and quiet in Lillehammer," Troe-

More than four years have passed since the fall of the Berlin Wall and subsequent unification. But German sport, like much of the country's society, still seems as divided as

The Nordic combined skilling team has been through a bitter dispute this season because of arguments over different tech-. niques between trainers from the former East and West Ger-

Hoppe, who carried the German flag at the opening ceremony in Albertville, has problems extending his contract with the German army because of Stasi allega-

Hoppe, the most successful bob pilot ever with 27 medals at Olympic, world and European championships, admits to telling the Stasi about an attempt by an Austrian sportsman to lure an East German away to the West in 1983. But he claims his relationship with the Stasi did not harm anyone.

"You can only work with someone who is willing to help. I was never willing," Hoppe

German bobsleigh coach Raimond Bethge said the affair was destroying the atmosphere

in the bob camp because there were contrasting views.

Those who did not experience it (life in former East Germany) see it differently, Bethge said.

Hoeppe added: "Those people who want to get past me in sporting terms, perhaps see the issue as something they have in

In Albertville, luge champions Georg Hackl and biathlete Fritz Fischer were the only sportsmen from the former West Germany to contribute to the total of 10 gold medals.

The affable Bavarian Hackl should be a major contender again on the luge track but former East Germans have some of the best chances to get on the podium again. Former GDR speedskater

Gunda Niemann, gold medal-list in the 3,000 and 5,000 metres in Albertville, is one of the hottest tips for further triumphs. Susi Erdmann is another ex-GDR star who is a major contender in the women's luge.
Alpine skier Katija Seizinger

could be one of western Germany's main hopes after her bronze medal in the super-G two years ago and last year's world title success in the disci-

Desnite the hyperbole sur-

rounding her return to competition, Witt will have to pull off a major surprise to win a medal.

The sport has moved on technically since she won her last medal at the 1988 Calgary Olympics and her performance at last week's European Championships was some way short of the necessary.

Some cynics are quick to point out that her comeback has been conveniently timed with an autobiography.

When the 1984 and 1988 Olympic champion steps out to skate her free programme to the haunting anti-war song Where Have All the Flowers Gone?", made famous in Germany by Marlene Dietrich in 1962, the image sent around the world will be of German harmony and union.

Witt, who used to be portrayed in East Germany as a shining symbol of communism, will be roared on in Lillehammer by Germans from east and west alike.

But the harmony will only be

in the chords of the song. It will take a lot longer before the German sports world, like German society, has forgotten all the divisions and problems of the past and be-

come one unit again.

Valderrama voted pest S. American player

MONTEVIDEO (AFP) - Colombian soccer star Carlos Valderrama was voted best South American player here Monday. The poll was carried out by Uruguayan daily newspaper El Pais, in conjunction with other journalists from South America and Europe. It was the second time in six years that Valderrama, 32, who plays in midfield for Columbian club Junior, has won the prize

Sabatini knocks Novotna out of open as Graf, Date and Sanchez advance

(Agencies) — Argentina's Gabriela Sabatini, searching for her first title in 20 months. bounced back from her sickbed to knock Wimbledon finalist Jana Novotna out of the Australian Open here Tuesday. Fourth seed Sabatini brushed aside the Czech republic fifth seed 6-3, 6-4, to reach the semifinals, where she

Sanchez-Vicario of Spain. The Argentinian's appearance was in doubt right up to the night match because of an unspecified illness for which she needed to consult a doctor. It was Sabatini's 16th semifinal in 34 Grand Slam events and she goes into Thursday's semi-final against Sanchez-Vicario holding a 12-7 record over the Spaniard. But on hardcourt surfaces. Sanchez-

will play second seed Arantxa

Vicario leads 3-2. Earlier in the day, the Spaniard put an end to Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere's big-time tennis career with a 7-6 (7/3). 6-4 victory in searing tempera-

Sabatini has played in 27 events since her last title in the 1992 Italian Open.

Currently ranked number six, it is the first time Subatini has been out of the women's top five since September 1987. Sabatini said she felt dizzy and had an upset stomach

when she woke Tuesday. "I woke up feeling very dizzy and I was not feeling too good ... I felt like throwing up." Sabatini said.

"A doctor gave me a shot of

a training accident here Monday. Gilles Malet, 20. a student

from Toulouse, died when his opponent's blade pierced his

MONACO (R) - One in every 25 athletes taking out-of-

competition dope tests last year were caught using steroids,

the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) said

Monday. The IAAF said the first year of a major campaign

against doping through random tests proved much more

successful than taking samples from athletes during competi-

tion. It said its 476 surprise tests, taken in 27 countries, found

four per cent of athletes taking steroids, compared with a

figure of only 0.06 per cent of positive tests during competi-

tion. Athletes can obtain benefits in endurance and in

muscle-building from taking steroids during training and still

test negative in competition by dropping the drug well before

an event. The IAAF's doping commission and medical

committee, meeting in Monaco, decided to step up the tests this year as part of its war on doping. The world governing

body said it would almost double the number of out-of-

competition tests in 1994 and visit some 50 countries. Last

PARIS (R) — World Champion racing driver Alain Prost gave

the broadest hint yet, in a statement released Monday, that he

may be seriously considering competing again this season. The Frenchman's former team McLaren have been trying to tempt

Prost out of the retirement he announced while he was winning last year's Formula One title for Williams. In a statement to the French daily Le Parisien, released Tuesday, Prost commented on an opinion poll commissioned by the newspaper which showed 54 per cent of the public favoured the driver going back to McLaren. "Since rumours have been

circulating about my possible return to competition. I have

been wondering what people were thinking. Now, thanks to the Parisien, I know and, what's more, I'm reassured." his

statement said. "I have noted with pleasure the positive

reaction to me by French public opinion. However, at the

moment I cannot go any further in my plans for 1994. Whatever final decision I take, for which no deadline has been

fixed, I know it will not be easy." Prost took a year off from

the sport in 1992 after being fired by Ferrari and returned to win his fourth world title with Williams. He retired after a year

ear's enhanced drugs programme cost \$500,000.

Prost hints at possible return

of his two-year contract.

To all members of

protection at the armpit before snapping off.

One in 25 caught by dope tests



Gabriela Sabatini Tuesday turns to her family in celebration after defeating Czech Jana Novotna at the Australian Open (AFP photo)

anti-nausen to stop the symptoms and I went back to sleep until four o'clock." Sahatini said she never intended to pull out of the quar-

terfinal match and she felt better when she practised at the stadium late in the afternoon. The Czech said after her loss that there had been "too much

fuss about nothing" over Sabatini's reported illness. "I heard about it when the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) called me at the hotel to fell me that Gabriela was ill,

I don't know why they called me." Novotna said. Earlier Tuesday, top seed Steffi Graf tamed the power game of giant American teena-

ger Lindsay Davenport to reach the semifinals. The German world number one was far too consistent for the towering Davenport, win-ning 6-3, 6-2 in stifling heat on

centre court at Flinders Park. Graf's next test is a semifinal Thursday against Japan's Date, seeded 10th, who beat third seed Conchita Martinez of Spain earlier in the day.

"It was very hot," said Graf. who was delayed on court for 64 minutes by the 16th seed as the temperature rose to 34 degrees celsius. "If there had been a third set

or the rallies were longer, it might have been a problem. But I practised in the beat last week so it wasn't too had," she said.

tial and it just depends what she's going to do with it."

Graf, at 1.75 metres, gave away 13 cm to her 17-year-old opponent, who made too many errors to test the three-time Australian Open champion.

LONDON (AFP) — Leeds

United are to ban for life the

Yobs who the ruined the mi-

nute's silence for the late Sir

Matt Bushy before their en-

glish premiership defeat at

The club's executive board

announced Tuesday that those

who chanted "there's only one

Don Revie" during the tribute

to Sir Matt would be denied

The Yorkshire club have

launched a hunt for the hooli-

gans. Videos and newspaper

photographs are being scruti-nised by Leeds officials in the

hope of identifying those re-

over the last few years and the

club is determined to continue

its strenuous efforts to rid

Leeds United of this unruly

DETROIT (R) — U.S. figure skating champion Tonya Harding's ex-husband Jeff Giollooly

has offered to give Harding to

investigators "on a silver platter" as part of a plea bargain deal, according to a published

The Detroit Free Press, cit-

ing people familiar with the case, said Gillooly is trying to

cut a deal with prosecutors in

Oregon investigating the Jun. 6

attack on skater Nancy Kerri-

gan that put her out of con-petition for the U.S. title.

report Tuesday.

Harding's ex-husband

offers evidence against her

"Much has been achieved

entry to all leeds matches.

Blackburn last Sunday.

"Lindsay has a lot of poten-

Leeds to ban Yobs for life

As she is that big and tall, I

think it is more difficult for her

she can get in better shape

physically, ; ; Davenno. bhed the 'tower of . " said the novelty of p. an opponent who match: ner for power

was discontanting. "My natural style is to hit the ball back harder, which probably wasn't too smart today recause i was making a lot of errors," and Davenport, who is looking forward to reporting for class at Murrieta Valley High School in Califor-nia Thursday.

In the other match ambidextrous Date, urged on by cheering. flag-waving compatriots, delivered 2 left-right combination to oust Martinez from the

Date switched her racket from hand to hand and downed the Spaniard 6-2, 4-6, 6-3 to become only the second Jonanese woman to make a singles semifinal at a Grand Slam tournament.

Kazuko Sawamatsu made the semifinals here in 1973, losing to Evonne Goolagong. Sawamatsu helped coach Date

Date, who is naturally lefthanded, began playing tennis as a right-hander but hit a handful of shots with her left hand during the match - most of them successful.

I don't really practise with my left hand, but it does sometimes happen during a match that it feels more natural," Date said.

element." the club explained

Christie's hospital in Manches-

ter, the charity chosen by Sir

Matt's family, and be asking their fans to follow suit.

Leeds did consider reintro-

ducing a ban on their suppor-

ters attending the club's away

matches, which was lifted four

years ago, but ruled it out after

long discussions.
"It was decided that this

would be unfair on the large

majority of supporters who

were not involved and whose

support the players weciome and appreciate, they added.

Furthermore, considera-

tion was given to the situation

in respect of other clubs who

the directors felt should not be

"Gillooly has told investiga-

tors that he could serve her up on a silver platter, one such

person told the newspaper.

Gillooly's attorney Ron Daniels could not be reached

for comment but a spokes-woman for Daniels told the

Free Press no negotiations for

a plea bargain were underway.

"At this point, there's nothing going on," she said.

Gillooly, who had a stormy

three-year marriage with

Harding, is under investigation

for the attack on Kerrigan in

penalised in this way."

Leeds will also be making a 'substantial" donation to

in a statement.

Tyson could be free earlier than scheduled

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) -Mike Tyson could become a free man much sooner than scheduled under a reported deal in the works between his attorneys and the prosecutors who helped send the boxer to prison.

Tyson, convicted of raping Desiree Washington in an Indianapolis hotel room in 1991, would admit the crime in return for prosecutors agreeing to an amendment of his sixyear sentence to time served. WTHR-TV in Indianapolis reported Monday night.

Both sides may be willing to reach such a deal to avoid an upcoming hearing in the Indiana Court of Appeals to consider whether the prosecutor's office withheld important evi-

dence, the report said. WTHR said neither side was Atalking publicly about the deal, and did not disclose its sources for the report.

Tyson attorney Alan Dershowitz, reached at his home in the Buston area late Monday, said he could not comment on whether any representatives for Tyson were pursuing negotiations that could lead to his

early release.
"I've had no discussions" with the prosecutor's office, Dershowity said. "I am going ahead and preparing for the Rob Smith, a spokesman for

Prosecutor Jeffrey Modisett. could not be reached for comment at his home late Monday. The court of appeals rejected Tyson's first appeal to reverse his 1992 conviction.

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

Both vulnerable. East deals. NORTH

◇ A 9 4 3 ★ K

The bidding:
East South West North
1 0 1 2 1 NT 4 2
Pass Pass Pass
Pass Oueen of 0

Opening lead: Queen of v When you are trying to pull the wool over an opponent's eyes, the earlier the misdirection is attempt-

ed the better the chance of success. Plays that are impossible to read

early in the hand might be an open book by trick seven or eight. Flere's an example of a beautiful swindle by Pakistani star Masood Salim.

East's opening bid was artificial and showed 10-15 points, while de-

nying a five-card major. West's one no trump denoted length in the mi-

EAST

4Q7 ∇AK87 0107



Mike Tyson

Dershowitz has taken that appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, but it has not agreed to hear the case yet.

The defence also pursued a second round of appeals on its contention that Tyson should have a new trial because the prosecutor's office withheld from the defence team information that Washington intended to sue Tyson for civil damages. The defence claims that showed Washington motivated to get rich from a potentially large damage award against the former

heavyweight boxing champion. WTHR also reported that attorneys for Tyson and Washington are discussing an out-of-court settlement in the

civil case. Washington was a contenstant in the Miss Black America pageant held in Indianapolis in July 1991, and Tyson made an appearance at the

nor suits and, ofter the lead of the queen of diamonds, declarer was faced with having to find a way to

reduce four red-suit losers to three.
After a normal pause to consider
the prospects, declarer came to the
conclusion that the only chance was

conclusion that the only chance was to discard one of the heart losers on dummy's fourth diamond. To accomplish that, declarer would have to find East with a doubleton diamond (10 7 was the best possibility), since West had announced length in the suit and a diamond trick would have to be surrendered before the table's long card could be utilized. Had declarer won in hand with the king of diamonds and drawn trumps there was the chance that the defenders would be able to signal their strength. In any event, the po-

their strength. In any event, the po-sition would be much easier for the defenders to read. Massood found an elegant solution. He allowed the queen to hold, playing the six from band.

Not surprainaly, West continued

with the five of diamonds. Declarer won in hand, cashed the king and ace of trumps, then finessed the nine of diamonds. A heart disap-peared on the ace of diamonds, and another "unmakeable" contract

pageant.

GOREN BRIDGE

A WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

NEWS IN BRIEF

Delecour forges ahead

MONACO (AFP) - Frenchman François Delecour turned on the power to forge clear at the head of the Monte Carlo Rally here Tuesday. Delecour, looking for his first win in the event after finishing runner-up last year, won all three special stages of the morning in his Ford Escort. That performance left him 50 seconds clear of world champion Juha Kankkunen, in a Toyota Celica, with former world best Carlos Sainz of Spain in third in a Subaru, 1 minute 13 seconds off the pace. These three now seem the only realistic contenders - barring accidents - for the title. Delecour, starting each stage first as the rally leader, said: "I've been driving as close as possible to the walls of snow at the edge of the course - that way, I can spray a bit of snow on the road for those following behind." Germany's Armin Schwarz, who spun off yesterday and blamed spectators for throwing ice on the road, was hit by further, trouble. First a bolt broke in the suspension of his Mitsubishi on the seventh stage and then differential problems on the next caused him to drop even further behind. Of the 186 cars which began the rally Monday, only 151 lined up for

Lehto undergoes neck operation

LONDON (R) - Finnish Grand Prix driver JJ Lehto underwent an operation on his neck Monday following his crash at Silverstone and is expected to make a full recovery. Lehto suffered a damaged upper vertebra in a 240 km per hour crash at Silverstone's Stowe corner during testing with his Benetton Formula One Team last Friday. A source close to the team said the 27-year-old Finn was not in a serious condition and was expected to make a full recovery. He can walk with no great discomfort and is expected to leave hospital by the end of the week.

lvic walks out on Porto

Duty unpaid, model 1990.

For more information call:

Diplomatic features

LISBON (AFP) - Porto coach Tomislav Ivic quit FC Porto Tuesday, the club revealed. The 61-year-old Croatian joined the club after leaving Benfica following a string of bad results at the start of the 1992-93 cason. FC Porto are currently third in the Portuguese league benind. Benfica and Sporting Lisbon, who have recently sucked English coach Bobby Robson. Ivic was under contract until the end of 1994. Former Porto coach Carlos Alberto Silva of Brazil is tipped to take over.

Fencer killed in training tragedy

RODEZ, France (AFP) - A French fencer was killed during

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Steven Segal - in UNDER SIEGE Nabil Al Mashini Thantre presents a play entitled:

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Tel.: 634144 PERADELPRIA Michael Douglas - in COLUCE RAINS Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 3:30, 10:20

Cinema The Lady's Chauffeur

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ahlan theatre

Ahlan Arab Summit Conference (play)

Theatre is closed Mondays and Tuesdays

U.K. colonel

aid worker

marries Bosnia

LONDON (AFP) - Colone

Bob Stewart, former comm

der of Britain's U.N. troops

Bosnia-Herzegovina has ma

ried the Swiss aid worker

met two years ago during

frontline service, the press

ported Tuesday. He married 28-year-old Red Cross work

Claire Podbielski in a private

ceremony at a register office.
Weybridge, Surrey, Friend

no other guests, papers said Last year, Col. Stewart, 44

returned from the former

Yugoslavia and announced be

was separating from Lizzie, his

wife of 20 years. Their divorce

became final in November

emotional outbursts against

CHICAGO (R) — Civil righti leader Jesse Jackson and is

son Jonathan have denied

report that the younger lack said son may have been involved in last said

a drug ring. The San Francisco in a reard in Examiner reported Sunday greater with that Jonathan Jackson had greater with the control of the

been named as a suspect in a sum on all o federal investigation of an him probably alleged international herois at probably

smuggling ring. Reverend and the affi

the allegations were baseless ideal disast and said his son and all his

other children had always "played by the rules." He said entitles d

the family intended to go the family intended in the

States. The documents, instance sign

according to the newspaper, tan the 80-se describe wiretapped phone kenters of

calls between the younger at Reform Z Jackson and a Nigerian citizen at said Jo

Jackson and a regerment work sign of a tour

use language — including the words "oil" and "script" — WSyrians

which investigators said could his Golar

international drug deal. The Wills (AFP)

younger Jackson, a Gucage System Syst

conference that "it is not illegate to the lot of

in America for a place management of the rad

He said the man he had been the rad

have been code words for #

in America for a black man w

talking to was a legitimate

businessman with investment

interests in oil, television and

Cartland inspired -

movie production.

alleged ringleader. In the conversations, Jackson is said to

ca and Europe to the United

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allegations

Jackson, son

became final in November (NOTO). Col. Stewart, who become his of the North school of policy for the North school of the School of the North school

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TEL AVIV (AFP) - Israel faces the threat of a strong earthquake, the director of the country's seismology department war ed Tuesday. "There's no doubt that we are nearing this big 'wake." Gadi Shamir told a parliamentary committee at ate finances. It was likely to measure more than six on the Richter scale causing severe damage. State comptroller Nariam Ben Porat explained in her annual report that Israel was located in a "high risk" area in which hundreds of small tremors occurred each year. "All the experts agree there is a high probability of a strong earthquake in the next 50 years," Ms. Ben Porat said. The most vulnerable area is northeast Israel, near Tiberian lake. The last major earthquake was in 1927, at the time of British mandated Palestine. Three hundred people were killed and more than 1,000 houses

Hurd testifies in arms-for-Iraq inquiry

LONDON (AFP) - Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd testified Tuesday he was "pretty sure" he was never told that British guidelines on military sales to Iraq had been relaxed in the period preceding the Gulf war. When he took office in October 1989, he was handed a Foreign Office position paper on Iran and Iraq intended as a "crash course" on the political-military situation in the Gulf at the time, Mr. Hurd pointed-finitely stated on the color at the time, in the told an arms-to-Iraq inquiry. But he said the paper had not gone into detail on government guidelines on military sales to the two countries, and moreover, he had had little chance to read into the job in detail before starting to take decisions. 'There is no honeymoon or handover period," said Mr. Hurd. "You are not given an opportunity to sit beside your predecessor before you have to start taking decisions."

55 killed in south Sudan measles epidemic

KHARTOUM (R) — Authorities have declared a state of emergency of Sudan's southern Equatoria region after an outbreak of measles killed 55 children, a Khartoum newspaper reported Tuesday. The government-owned Al Sudan Al Hadith said the deaths occurred in Kwoda area 40 kilometres northwest of Juba, southern Sudan's main town. About 200 others had caught the ailment in the community of 15,000 people. all medical personnel, staff of voluntary organisations working in the medical field and the medical services adminis-tration in the area have been called in to try and contain the epidemic, it said. Health authorities have rushed in emergency

Saudis halve Mecca quota for Iran

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TEHRAN (AFP) - Saudi Arabia has halved the number of Iranians allowed to visit Islam's holiest shrines in Mecca for the annual pilgrimage, a newspaper here said Tuesday. Officials told an Iranian delegation visiting Saudi Arabia that they had reduced the quota for Iran's pilgrims to 60,000 against 120,000 last year, Salam reported. It said the delegation criticised the decision as "illogical." An official remains Martyrs Foundation, which looks after the families of war victims told the paper that the foundation had also been war victims, told the paper that the foundation had also been forced to halve the number of its pilgrims, from 3,000 to 1,500.

Iraq paper urges Turkey to end embargo

NICOSIA (AP) -- An Iraqi army newspaper Tuesday urged Turkey to end its economic boycott of Iraq, saying its support for the U.S.-led coalition during the Gulf war had hurt it profoundly, according to the state-run Iraqi News Agency. "What is needed is a serious effort to lift the blockade of Iraq and restore normal economic relations, which is an indispensable step towards salvaging Turkey from its unjustifiable dilemma," according to the report monitored in Nicosia. "The Turkish president, premier Hild political party leaders realise now the size of the economic and political dilemma that has started to face Turkey," said the news agency, quoting the Defence Ministry daily AI Qadissiyyah. Ankara's support for the aggression against Iraq harmed Turkey economically, politically and historically, the newspapers said.

Turkish woman cuts off lover's penis

ISTANBUL (AFP) - A Turkish woman sliced off the penis of her lover after he announced he was leaving her in a copycat version of the Lorena Bobbitt case in the United States, the daily Hurriyet reported Tuesday. A hospital in Ankara surgically reattached the penis of victim Abdullah Kemal Konak, a garage security guard. The woman. Zeynep Atici, whose age and job were not revealed, was reportedly on the run. She was saad to have bound Mr. Konak by his hands and feet when he was too drunk to resist. The operation on Mr. Konak lasted four hours, but it will be a week before surgeons know whether he will recover all his sexual capabilities. hospital officials said.

Protestant leader goes missing in Iran

TEHRAN (AFP) — The Iranian Armenian leader of A Protestant sect in the Middle East has been missing since last week, his Assembly of God church said here Tuesday. An official of the church told AFP that Hike Hosepian had disappeared last Wednesday on the way to Mehrabad airport in Tehran to receive a guest arriving from the central city of Esfahan. A newspaper said police were investigating the case. A police official, speaking to the daily Salam, denied Mr. Hosepian had been arrested. The Assembly of God has members in several countries of the Middle East, around 500 of them in Iran, including Armenians, Assyrians and Farsispeakers, according to Protestant church sources.

U.S. Jews confer with Moroccan leaders

RABAT (R) — A delegation from B'nai B'rith has met Moroccan Prime Minister Mohammad Karim Lamrani and government leaders in Rabat, the official news agency MAP said Tuesday. Ten members of the American Jewish group, led by its President Kent Schiner, discussed "possibilities for economic cooperation and the conditions in which B'nai B'rith could contribute to the development of foreign investment in Morocco," the agency said. It is the second visit to Morocco

Insecurity scares Sahara tourists away

ALGIERS (R) - Insecurity in Algeria's Saharan region has scared off visitors, ruining tourism in the desert resort of Tamanrasset, the official agency APS said on Tuesday. It said Sahara tourism was "in a catastrophic situation" because of "the practically total absence of foreign tourists" during the peak winter season. It blamed the slump on "insecurity generated by acts of banditry int he last two years, directly related to illegal African emigration to Tamanrasset." a reference to the influx of people fleeing hardship and political problems in neighbouring states. It added tht "after painful events like the taking of French hostages and the assassination of foreigners." the number of tourists fell to zero by

Arafat's bodyguards to be trained in U.S.

TUNIS (AP) — Yasser Arafat is sending a group of his most trusted men to the United States for specialised training to enable them to become his bodyguards when he moves to the occupied territories, sources said Tuesday. Sources close to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said the group will involve several dozen men, mostly former PLO guerrillas. They are to travel to the United States next month for the U.S.-government-sponsored course, said the sources. The men will receive their training in undisclosed place under an agreement reached between the PLO and the U.S. administration after Secretary of State Warren Christopher visited the PLO headquarters in Tunis in December, the sources said. Mr. Arafat's office and the U.S. embassy in Tunis would neither confirm nor deny the report.

Baghdad exchanges suspend operations

AMMAN (AP) -Moneychangers have frozen all dealings in Baghdad following a call for a crackdown on blackmarket dealings to check the beleaguered dinar's plunge, residents and Amman dealers said Tuesday.

"Not a single moneychanger is visible in Baghdad markets," said a resident reached by telephone from Amman. "Éveryone is scared that a police roundup of moneychangers is coming."
The dinar, weakened by an

economy staggering under a nearly 40-month international trade embargo plunged to 196 to the U..S dollar on the black market Saturday and rose to around 175 dinars to the dollar before trading was suspended

Under the official rate, the dinar is worth \$3,22 but the black market is widely tolerated, apart from an occasional crackdown.

The resident, who declined to be identified said exchangers panicked after a hardhitting editorial appeared Saturday in Babel, a freewheeling daily run by Presi-dent Saddam Hussein's son,

Babel balmed the Iraqi dinar's dive on speculation by moneychangers whom it de-scribed as a "threat to national security.

Al Thawra, the ruling Baath Party's mouthpiece, called on security forces to intervene and impose "a responsible atti-tude... to curtail their (moneychangers) oppression... which is tantamount to enemy

In December, the Iraqi government relaxed foreign exchange regulations and allowed Iraqis to operate bank accounts in non-Iraqi currency.

The central bank also licensed 25 exchange houses, but the moves appeared to have done little to improve the

"Iraqi moneychangers are afraid that the authorities will now launch proceedings against them," said Sufian Alami of the Alami Exchange House in Amman. "Trading had come to a total stop since Sunday.

The dinar has steadily lost value since the United Nations imposed sweeping international sanctions against Iraq following the August 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

But the plunge this month was unprecedented and followed the United Nations' decision to maintain for another six months sanctions still in place pending Iraq's com-pliance with all ceasefire resolutions. The sanctions have deprived.

Baghdad of its oil exports, its main foreign exchange earner. The United Nations has offered Iraq a one-time sale of oil worth \$1.6 billion to pay for urgent humanitarian needs and U.N. costs, but Baghdad has rejected the conditions, saying they infringe on its

sovereignty.
Food and medical supplies are exempt from the sanctions. But Iraq has exhausted its foreign currency reserves and now says it has no more cash to pay for them.

Baghdad has been rallying for lifting the embargo.

Palestinian alliance names leadership

By Jamal Halaby

The Associated Press AMMAN — An alliance of hardline Palestinian factions has named a leadership council to direct their quest to wreck the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) autonomy deal, activists said Tuesday.
The 20-member council of the Alliance of Palestinian

Forces was formed uburing a Jan. 19 meeting in the Byrian capital, Damascus, they said. The council members include Ahmad Jibril of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Hawatmeh of the Democratic

Palestine (DFLP) and Mohammad Musa of Fateh-Uprising. Each faction named its secretary-general and a deputy to the council, except the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP). whose leader George Habash

Front for the Liberation of

preferred to stay away because of cardiac ailments, the activ-Ibrahim Ghosheh, a council member and Amman-based

spokesman for Hamas, said the group will meet in Damascus again by mid-February to elect a president.

Delegates to that meeting will endorse a statute for the alliance, he said, adding that "the next phase will witness serious endeavours to confront the so-called Israel-PLO peace accord and escalate the Palesti-

NAIROBI (AFP) — Three newly-freed aides of Somali

warlord Mohammad Farah

Aideed joined him in the Ke-

nyan capital Nairobi Tuesday,

officials said, amid fresh initia-

tives to bring peace to war-torn

General Aideed's right-hand

man and chief financier Osman

Hassan Ali "Ato" flew into

Nairobi from Mogadishu with

his former co-detainees

Mohammad Hassan Awale.

Gen. Aideed's advisor on in-ternational affairs, and Omar

Salad Elmi, the warlord's for-

mer representative in

Gen. Aideed, who has been

in Nairobi since U.N.-spon-

sored peace talks in Addis

Ababa collapsed in December,

met President Daniel Arap

Moi near the western Kenyan

town of Nakuru on Tuesday

morning, Kenyan officials said.

consultations with other fac-

tions since Addis was a fai-

lure," Gen. Aideed's spokes-man in Kenya, Abdul Latif

A key Aideed ally, warlord

Omar Jess, was also expected

to arrive in Nairobi from Addis

Ababa later Tuesday, Somali

Sources close to Gen.

Afdub, told AFP.

sources said.

"We're preparing for further

nian uprising against the Zion

ist enemy."
The Damascus-based alliance, formed in December, joins 10 factions with ideologies as disparate as Marxism and Islamic fundamentalism.

The Marxists oppose PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's agreement for limited self-rule in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gasa Strip. They say the lagreement falls short of fulfilling Palestinian aspirations for an independent state. Hamas and other Islamic fundamentalist groups in the

alliance say they want nothing less than Israel's destruction. The council members are: Abu Al Mustafa and Abu Ahmad Fouad of the PFLP: Nayef Hawatmeh, and Ramzi Rabah of the DFLP,

Ibrabim Ghosheh and. Mohammad Nazzal of Hamas. Ahmad Jibril and Talal Naji of the PFLP-GC;

Mohammad Musa and Abu Fakher of Fateh-Uprising; Fathi Shiqaqi and Isam Amer of Islamic Jihad-Pales-

Issam Al-Qadi and Sami Qandeel of Hizbollah-Pales-

Khaled Abdul Majid and Haitham Abdul Kader of the Popular Struggle Front. Abu Nidal Al Ashkar, and Ali Aziz of the Palestine Li-

beration Front, and

Freed Aideed aides join him in

Kenya amid fresh peace moves

Aideed said he had rejected a

Kenyan proposal to broker new peace talks in Nairobi with

his rival warlord and self-styled

Interim President Ali Mahdi

The sources said Gen.

Aideed had bade Mr. Moi farewell on Tuesday as he

planned to return to Moga-

dishu "within two or three

had trouble reviving negotia-

tions in Nairobi between his

Somali National Alliance

(SNA) and his opponents in the group of 12 factions led by

But he was expected to try

and organise a conference of

the United Somali Congress

(USC), including both his and

Mr. Ali Mahdi's supporters, on

his return to Mogadishu, the

The USC split into two

opposing factions led by Gen.

Aideed and Mr. Ali Mahdi

after the 1991 overthrow of

former ruler Mohammad Siad

Barre, sparking civil war while

famine gripped the country.

Mr. Moi had attempted to

launch a new initiative to re-

concile Somalia's warring clan-

based factions, Kenyan offi-

Mr. Ato and the other two

his rival Ali Mahdi.

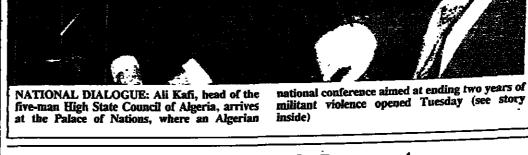
source said.

Gen. Aideed has reportedly

Mohammad.

days.

Arabi Awad and Abdullah Al Nimr of the Communist Revolutionary Party.



Israel seeks Turkish water mutual benefit through joint

dent Ezer Weizman said Tuesday his country was seeking to buy water from Turkey and to cooperate in military matters, trade and tourism.

"Israel is a potential buyer of water," Mr. Weizman told a news conference in Ankara a day after talks with Turkish President Suleyman Demirel. 'We lack water. You have water in abundance.

"The president and I discussed the possbility of purchasing water," he said.

Mr. Weizman, on the first-

state visit by an Israeli president to Turkey, said his discussions had focused on Turkish rivers which flow to the Mediterranean. "This water is now wasted," he said.

Foreign Ministry sources said construction had begun on a filling station to hold 180 million cubic metres of water from the Manavgat River, east of the southern resort of Antalya.

The water, to be transported by sea from an offshore terminal, would be up for tender once the station is completed next year. Israel had expressed keen interest, the sources said. Water is a frequent source of

friction in the thirsty Middle East. Turkey is increasing control of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, which rise in its territory, through its huge dam and irrigation scheme, the southeastern Anatolian project

Mr. Weizman, due to visit the GAP region on Wednesday, said Syria and Iraq. alarmed by Turkey's grip on regional water supplies, had no need to worry about the Managvat project.

"If Syria is worried, if Iraq is worried, there is no need," Mr. Weizman said. "No one is intending to deprive any of the neighbour countries of water."

Mr. Weizman said he and Mr. Demirel had agreed to initiate technical talks on a free trade accord and to cooperate in the fields of tourism, technology, security and defence.
"All military establishments

over the world are trying to convert military know-how ... to civilian fields," he said.

"There are also great possi-bilities for spin-offs," Mr. Weizman added. "The military establishment in both our countries is very big. I hope we can find a way to cooperate, exchange knowledge, and find

ventures.' He is accompanied by representatives of Israel's military.

aviation and hi-tech industries as well as 22 businessmen and Israeli Central Bank Governor Jakob Frankel. Asked if Israel and Turkey

planned to cooperate against "terrorism," Mr. Weizman said it was "very difficult to ask a country to cooperate physically" in another's anti-"terror" fight, but added that "cooperation in know-how, in training and exchanging in-formation" was possible.

The Turkish government has been fighting for the past 10 years against separatist Kurdish Labour Party guerrillas in the southeast. The struggle has cost more than 10,500 lives. Mr. Weizman said Turkey held a key position in a volatile

region and could be a factor for stability. "Turkey talks to every-body," Mr. Weizman said. "Turkey is very much oriented on development of a future new Middle East, for which a lot depends on peaceful relations with us. Syria, Lebanon

and Jordan. Rare praise for Assad, page 2

Mubarak: Militants doomed to fail

CAIRO (R) - President Hosni Mubaraktold his police force Tuesday that the Muslim willtants movement was doomed to fail but the government would respect the law and human rights in its campaign against political violence.

In a speech on police day after awarding posthumous medals to policemen killed by Muslim fundamentalists, Mr. Mubarak again accused unnamed foreign powers of instigating the wave of violence which began almost two years

At least 279 people have been killed and 669 injured in the violence, most of them either policemen or members of underground Islamic groups which want to overthrow the government and set up a strict Islamic state.

"The threads of the danger extend to a conspiracy by wellknown foreign forces which do not want Egypt to be stable and to progress," Mr. Mubar-

ak said. "The aim of these groups is to impoverish Egypt and ob-

struct its progress in the in-

former detainees, freed last

week with five other Aideed

supporters, called for an end to

inter-clan strife last week after

elders from the two warlords'

clans signed a watershed peace pact. Their plea for reconcilia-

tion bolstered hopes of peace. They complained of harsh

treatment during more than four months in U.N. detention

and said conditions had im-

proved only after they went on

They were arrested during the U.N.'s four-month hunt for

Gen. Aideed, which has been

ended while an international

commission is to apportion

blame for clashes between

Gen. Aideed's militia and U.N. troops that killed more

than 70 peacekeepers and hun-

But Mr. Ato said Somalia

should "forget and pardon the

past" in comments that sharply

contrasted with the latest state-

ments by Gen. Aideed, who

demanded an immediate end

to the U.N. Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM) and the

withdrawal of all its troops last

The inter-clan peace pact

can succeed only if Mr. Ali

Mahdi and Gen. Aideed them-

selves make peace, political

analysts and diplomats said.

dreds of Somalis.

a brief hunger strike,

terest of foreign powers which want Egypt shackled by prob-lems of unemployment and poverty," he added. "But terrorism has no future

in this tolerant land. It is doomed to failure and defeat. It will remain isolated and under siege until its roots are torn up," he said. Egypt said countries such as

Iran, Afghanistan, Sudan and Yemen have helped the militants, either directly or by allowing them to train on their territory.
Political analysts say that

foreign influences have played a part in the wave of violence but that the fundamentalist movement is largely a response to local conditions. But Mr. Mubarak described

the militant groups as "a small minority... outside the national mainstream, at odds with the spirit of the people and detrimental to its interests." "They will not be able to

subduc the will of society and dictate to this country a course which leads only to ignorance, tyranny, oppression and pover-ty," he added.

ty," he added.
The president said the state

violence as the justification for draconian and exceptional measures but it preferred to work within the law. "The arm of the state is

strong and well able to uproot the elements of terrorism in the quickest pos we do not want to violate the sovereignty of the law.

"Police conduct will remain civilised, refraining from the methods of revenge and no one shall be punished for the crimes of another," he said. Egypt has been under

emergency law since the assassination of President Anwar Sadat in 1981 and human rights groups say the police have tortured detainees and violated human rights in the fight against political violence.

But the independent Egyptian Organisation for Human Rights said on Sunday that the militant groups bore most of the responsibility for recent deaths in the violence. Police ha

argely given up the practi physically eliminating cted militants,

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U.K.'s 'back to basics' policies LONDON (AFP) — Dante in all Barbara Cartland, the novel of the occup

known for her vast output of romantic fiction, has claimed to be inspiration for Prime Minister John Major's tropic in UA tional values. The 92-year of Major's "back in the incident of the line with spired Major's "back to be to to basics" campaign during basics" campaign during basics" campaign during basics (UAE) affiliated by the sunday Telegraph. Mile but the Sunday Telegraph. Mile but the Sunday Telegraph. Mile but will op Major office at 10 Downs. Major office at 10 Downers and but but street said "it was a possible that the pink-clad noveled had planted the seed of Major's campaign, which but fired on his government for lowing a series of scandals in volving MPs. Asked by Mojor what was the source of the series of scandals in the success, Ms. Cartland substitute the series of scandals in the seri she replied "I give my readers what they want — good most stories," the Guardian news the minute ist conceded in a television and the minute ist conceded in a television. stories," the Guardian stories, "the Guardian paper reported. But the noval paper reported in a television spending stories that it was Mr. Major and prices who took her idea of a reaction to traditional morality and turned into the "back to basics" phrase that briefly re basics" phrase that briefly re basics basics basics standing the Major's standing the basics bas vived Mr. Major's standing after the Conservative Party (AFP) conference last year. However the campaign backfired out the campaign backfired out the past month as the Conservative have been swamped to be finance accusations of hypocrisy.

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